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**1932**

# 74 Colonist March 23, 1932 VICTORIA CITY BILL IS PASSED

## Budget Debate Lengthens With Heavy Fire From Opposition Ranks

Debate on the Jones' budget continued in the Legislature yesterday, the afternoon being devoted to two speakers, with the exception of a few minutes taken on public and private bills. The Victoria City Bill received third reading and was enacted subject to assent, without further discussion in the House.

Main budget speeches came from Colonel Nelson Spencer (Con., Vancouver), and A. M. Manson, K.C. (Lib., Omineca), in a debate that was adjourned by Hon. R. W. Bruhn. The executive part of the sitting saw introduction for the second reading of amendments to the Milk Act, dealing with regulation of the use of reconstituted milk; second reading of amendments to the Companies Act, and debate on insurance company regulations.

### INSURANCE IMPASSE

Attorney-General Pooley explained the Province proposed to pass provincial legislation, conferring on the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council powers to make regulations to supervise and control the operations of insurance companies in British Columbia, pending final outcome of the dispute between the provinces and the Dominion on this subject.

The original test case had been carried to the Privy Council, where the Provinces won. The Dominion Government had since introduced a new insurance bill, and no finality could be given to Provincial law on the subject until these matters had been adjusted all round.

In so far as British Columbia was concerned, this Province maintains its right to supervise insurance company operations within its borders. Debate was adjourned by the leader of the Opposition.

Hon. R. L. Maitland explained clauses in a Companies Act amending bill, which would provide a check on loans to directors, regulate corporation voting powers, and other matters.

### BUDGET DEBATE

It was probable that the economic world had never before seen so near a state of collapse as in the present depression, said Colonel Nelson Spencer on the budget, after general commendation of the policy of retrenchment announced.

Of the load of \$114,000,000 as the net debt of the Province, with annual carrying charges of \$9,500,000, between \$65,000,000 and \$70,000,000 had been added on account of the construction and acquisition of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway. In reducing its expenditures by about \$4,300,000 this year, the Province was taking a wise course and one that would be generally appreciated, he declared.

Colonel Spencer praised Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe for seriously attacking the problem of mounting educational costs in British Columbia; and said the reduction in the University grant would not impair efficiency to the extent that had been previously represented.

With four years' experience in this Legislature, and eight years in the Alberta House, he believed that Governments were not one whit more extravagant than private and public businesses in administration of affairs. Generally speaking, the people had received in British Columbia a dollar's worth for every dollar expended, and talk of waste was unfounded. There has been much criticism of party Government, but this system had stood the test the world over, and had been practiced in Great Britain for two centuries. Nonparty municipal governments had not proven such an unqualified blessing, he averred.

### PROSPERITY AHEAD

From the present depression would eventually arise, said Colonel Spencer, a period of prosperity for the world such as had not been witnessed before. A period of cautious navigation would be needed until the forward movement set in.

Colonel Spencer advocated further reduction in civil service salaries of from 7½ per cent to 20 per cent, with an average of 15 per cent. These cuts, he said, would save between \$600,000 and \$700,000, and would be more in keeping with the times than the reductions of from 2 to 12 per cent already made. The Government should also help municipalities to bring about similar reductions in their pay sheets. The sum of \$4,500,000 was paid in civil service salaries, and this was a staggering sum, he advanced. To the response that many civil servants were underpaid he would say that the work was secure, and not subject to fluctuations such as beset private employment.

The member for Vancouver supported the suggestion that an independent commission be invited to investigate and advise on British Columbia finances; and favored also the publication of quarterly reports. Such a commission could recommend reductions in service that no Government would have power to suggest on its own initiative.

### INTERNATIONAL PARLEY

Unemployment remained as a major issue, with \$200,000,000 spent in Canada to relieve the situation in two years, he continued. No relief had come, and if anything the problem was becoming more aggravated, to his mind. He again urged Dominion and Provincial action along concerted lines to meet with United States representatives and devise some remedy that would apply to this continent. His idea was that the work available should be split up among those who needed it, and every man paid a living wage. Only restoration of purchasing power would rekindle business at normal levels, he averred.

In a torrential attack on the Government and all its works, A. M. Manson found little to be happy about in the new budget, for which he predicted a heavy deficit. British Columbia had come to the sorriest pass in its financial career, and a deathbed repentance of the ministry would not save it, he declared. The new budget was "many miles from a balance," and he would predict "a deficit of \$5,000,000 or better in the coming fiscal year."

Going back to 1930, Mr. Manson said the budget of that year had disclosed a nominal surplus of \$42,631, but an actual deficit of \$4,812,000 had been turned in at the end of the year.

In 1931, he continued, a surplus of \$8,665 had been estimated, and an admitted deficit of \$3,000,000 had occurred in nine months. He believed this would be much greater when the books were closed at the end of the year. Estimated revenue for the year closing had been \$28,000,000, and he doubted if much more than \$20,000,000 would be received.

In addition to expenditures estimated at more than \$28,000,000 for 1931, special warrants to the tune of \$6,496,000 had been passed. Taking all into account, he would say that a deficit between \$7,000,000 and \$8,000,000 would be experienced for the year closing this month.

### SAYS DEFICIT BUDGETED

Applying his calculations to the coming fiscal year, 1932-33, Mr. Manson said a surplus of \$152,000 was estimated. This made no provision for forest fire fighting, likely to cost between \$500,000 and \$600,000, and unavoidable; shortage of pro-

vision by a further \$250,000 for direct relief; and no provision whatever for work relief, which he estimated would cost the Province \$1,250,000 on capital account, and a further \$750,000 on current account. To this he would apply what he described as an overestimation of revenue by \$5,000,000 up; making a total deficit of \$8,450,000, instead of a surplus of \$152,000. To be on the safe side he would say the deficit in the coming year would be \$5,000,000 "or better."

Mr. Manson turned next to what he termed extravagances of the present Government. In these he included an audit of the public accounts, costing, he said, \$50,000; inquiry into Liquor Board affairs, costing \$42,000; commissions of \$87,000 paid on the sale of Sumas and other lands vended at low prices; the retirement of the former liquor commissioner, for \$25,000; and substitution of a \$30,000 board in place of a \$12,000 one.

Premier Tolmie—The saving on the Liquor Board has been at the rate of \$350,000 a year since!

Mr. Manson countered by saying that there had been a waste on the Liquor Board of \$100,000 a year, for costs of administration that had gone from 4.82 per cent under the former board to 6.49 per cent under the present staff.

### CITES ROAD MACHINERY

There had been, he continued, no justification for the purchase of nearly \$2,000,000 in road machinery by the former Minister of Public Works, now Minister of Lands, and now that the machinery had been bought there was no money to operate it.

The game branch of the Attorney-General's Department had gone up from \$45,000 a year to \$200,000 a year, or \$150,000 yearly more than as at four years ago. He would discount as a minor matter the cost of an excessively large Cabinet, but could not pass \$97,000 which he said had been paid for a right of way at one place.

Mr. Manson closed with an attack on the policy of short term borrowing undertaken by the Minister of Finance up to the present year, when, in the face of altered circumstances, a policy of long term financing had been suddenly introduced. The Minister, he declared, had been wrong in both cases. A total of \$48,000,000 had been borrowed in less than four years, and the carrying charges on the debt had risen 75 per cent.

### RECENT LOAN

In regard to the recent \$5,000,000 fifteen-year loan, he observed, there had been a spread of 2½ per cent between the cost to the Province and the cost to the public; while the syndicate which optioned the loan received \$125,000 for its services. He would not say this was a commission, but would hold it an unnecessary spread and expense to the Province. With the Province paying 6.77 per cent for its money, there was little hope for easy financing for municipalities or private business, he commented. The loan had been sold privately by the Province, and no tenders had been called.

Hon. J. W. Jones—What did your Government do in 1918 and in 1921?

Mr. Manson ignored the thrust, and continued. The Government was preparing to finance itself further by special warrant without the authority of the Legislature for necessary expenditures that should be estimated and provided for in votes; and the Minister of Finance was, in effect, asking for a blank cheque to carry on Provincial affairs.

He would not deny the need of new revenue, but protested that nearly \$1,000,000 of inescapable costs had been put over on the municipalities in social services. This, he said, was merely a change of taxmasters, for the same people would have to find the money.

### WOULD INCREASE TAX

Mr. Manson proposed that the Government restore succession duties to the higher rates levied by the former Government up to 1928, and said there had been no call for this reduction.

Of the income tax, he would say that it bore too heavily on the underpaid, and not heavily enough on those who could well afford to pay more. Increase in the gasoline tax might force an issue in the courts, with the possible loss of all revenue from this source. The university grant had been unreasonably reduced, and this would drive students across the border, never to return.

The people, Mr. Manson thundered, had lost confidence in the present Government, and were waiting to welcome T. D. Pattullo, the leader of the Opposition, at the head of the new ministry. The demise of the Tolmie Government had already taken place and the cortege should move on.

A Voice—Where to, Valhalla?

Mr. Pattullo had the ability to direct the ship of state in these troubled waters, and the ripe experience which such times demanded. It was high time, he concluded, that a new captain be chosen, as the ship had almost sunk.

Hon. R. W. Bruhn adjourned the debate, and will probably speak this afternoon. Hon. W. A. McKenzie will take part in the debate in the evening sitting today. The House adjourned at 5:14 p.m. to permit the unemployment committee to proceed.

The sitting of the Legislature today will open at 2:30 p.m.



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## PUBLIC COSTS ARE REDUCED

Expenditures From 1929 to  
Date Have Been \$110,-  
000,000, House Told

Answering attacks by the Liberal Opposition in the Legislature last evening, Hon. J. W. Jones gave figures for expenditures under the present regime at \$110,408,076, or \$40,000,000 less than the sum the Opposition alleged had been expended by the ministry since it took office.

Mr. Jones said that appropriations in the year 1928-29 had been largely spent when the present Government assumed power, and the balance had been committed. In the following year, 1929-30, the sum of \$26,219,156 had been expended; \$29,099,964 in 1930-31, and \$28,080,030 in 1931-32, as estimated. This made a total of \$83,399,151, to which is added \$25,008,925 borrowed under loan acts, and \$2,000,000 borrowed for unemployment relief, or a gross total of \$110,408,076, he declared.

The Leader of the Opposition took issue with the figures, and repeated his assertion that \$150,000,000 had been expended by the present regime since it assumed office. He dared the Government to have an independent audit.

### FINANCE ESTIMATES

Main votes in the Department of Finance were reviewed in committee of supply for the current fiscal year. These total \$1,646,862, a reduction of \$73,653 from \$1,720,515 appropriated last year. Distribution of \$570,000 in motor licences to the municipalities, and \$170,000 in parliamentary receipts, is provided for the current year, or within \$5,000 of the sum dispersed on this account last year.

The votes include \$558,290 for Government agencies and assessors, a reduction from \$607,223 last year; \$17,699 net for the operation of British Columbia House in London and correlated services; \$25,000 for the Bureau of Information and general publicity; and departmental branch votes at corresponding figures to last year, with reductions being fairly general in all branches.

## CHIROPRACTIC BILL HALTED

Sustained Attack on Private  
Bill Staged in Legisla-  
ture in Debate

Chiropactic legislation was halted in the Legislature yesterday when adjournment on debate of the bill was taken after a discussion of more

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## NEW TAXES EXPLAINED

Hon. J. W. Jones Outlines to  
Legislature Effect of In-  
come Measure

Chief taxation bills of the session came down in the Legislature yesterday, including the new Income Tax Act, and a companion measure to vary the provisions of the Special Revenue Tax Act of 1931. Hon. J. W. Jones spoke to the bills in the evening sitting, explaining what the Government contemplates doing.

"Adoption of the new Income Tax Act makes it possible to discontinue both the gross income tax and the special revenue tax," the Minister of Finance explained. "The conditions under which three separate taxes were imposed not only led to confusion, but gave rise to inequalities, as well as causing additional administrative work."

### TERMS OUTLINED

Personal allowances are to be made positive exemptions instead of rebates, in the new measure, and the exemption of \$500 applicable to married persons will also apply to householders. Mr. Jones explained. The exemptions are \$500 in respect to married persons and householders, including widows and widowers with dependent children, up to \$300 on insurance premiums paid, and \$200 in respect to each dependent. No exemption is allowed nonresidents, or single persons, including widows and widowers, without dependent children.

Exemptions under the special revenue tax will not apply, when the new bill becomes law. Husbands and wives with separate incomes will receive only \$500 combined exemption, but exemptions for children in such cases may be apportioned between them. The rate of taxation, as explained in the budget, will commence at 1 per cent on the first \$1,000 of income, being progressively increased by 1 per cent on each additional \$1,000 up to \$19,000.

### HOW IT WORKS

Not as the rate of tax, but as the net effect the following taxable proportion of incomes will pay the total equivalent percentages shown in parenthesis: \$1,000 (1 per cent); \$2,000 (1½ per cent); \$3,000 (2 per cent); \$4,000 (2½ per cent); \$5,000 (3 per cent); and so on by half per cent stages up to \$19,000 of taxable income, where the proportion paid in taxes would be 10 per cent, continuing at that rate to \$50,000.

The 1 per cent deductions on wages will continue, but the exemptions of \$15 and \$25 weekly will be removed, and the new provisions apply, Mr. Jones continued. "Thereafter employers will be required to deduct 1 per cent from the wages of all their employees, excepting in occasional domestic service for which not more than \$5 is paid," he explained.

than an hour, during which time special legislation to establish chiropractors under their own administration and regulations came under heavy fire from professional members in the House.

Dr. J. J. Gillis (Lib., Yale) said he wished to have it realized that chiropractors were not qualified to practice on the general public, for the treatment of all ailments. Physicians spent from seven to ten years in acquiring knowledge of the human body, and it was absurd to think that anyone could, in eighteen months, learn enough to render him capable of general practice, he said. He flatly opposed the bill.

R. W. Alward (Cons., Fort George) stated he concurred with Dr. Gillis.

He did not believe that chiropractors had any qualification or right to treat of infectious or contagious disease. He would, however, be willing to grant powers along restricted lines, within the capabilities of the practice on matters where it might be efficacious. He would oppose the present bill, he said.

Dr. C. M. Kingston (Cons., Grand Forks-Greenwood) said the chiropractors had advanced nothing beyond their claims and ambitions of fifteen years ago. Medical science was not personally interested in the issue, except to see that the public was safeguarded. Knowledge of medicine was as old as man, and had improved with modern science, step by step. He cited the smallpox scare at Vancouver, and said chiropractors had done nothing to avert an epidemic—happily arrested by action of provincial and Vancouver health officials.

### SUPPORTS MEASURE

J. A. Loutet (Cons., North Vancouver) said simply he would support the bill. Chiropractors and drugless healers were practising, and even if their action only produced a mental stimulus, that was a gain to those benefiting by their treatment. He would at least grant some measure of self control to the practitioners.

Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., declared an open mind on the bill, chiefly on the ground that while no corresponding period of training was demanded of drugless physicians, as had to be accumulated by orthodox medical practitioners before treating the public, some measure of legislation would confine other cults to some discernible limits. If the legislation passed, it could always be controlled by the Legislature, depending on the results.

Dr. L. E. Borden (Cons., Nelson) adjourned debate, over protest, and a show of hands, 23 to 13, in favor of this course.

### NO 1931 REFUNDS

"The tax imposed by last year's special revenue tax act constitutes the minimum tax payable on the income assessed thereunder, and no refunds of taxes paid under that act can be made," Mr. Jones stated at another point.

"In future, however, deductions made by an employer from an employee's wages in excess of the tax due under the new act will be refunded to the employee upon receipt of his return of income," continued the Minister of Finance.

This will apply on incomes after the calendar year 1931, expressly dealt with by the previous remarks.

### TIME EXTENDED MONTH

"In view of the uncertainty attendant on changes of acts, the commissioner will exercise the authority given him to extend time for filing returns this year to April 30, but returns may be submitted on the forms originally in use, and the appropriate exemptions will be applied by the assessing staff. Employers will continue to make returns as to deductions, as heretofore. Everyone in receipt of an income from any source in excess of the exemptions must file a return. All 1932 taxes will be payable on receipt of an assessment notice as formerly.

"Commencing with the 1933 assessment year, taxpayers will be required to calculate their own tax, and pay at least one-quarter of the estimated amount with their returns. The balance of the tax may be paid in three installments, with interest at 6 per cent. A penalty of an additional 4 per cent is provided for overdue payments.

### CORPORATION CHANGES

"Guarantee, trust and loan companies and public utility corporations, formerly taxed on gross income are now made liable to the tax on net income, to the extent that this tax exceeds the tax payable on their gross income.

"Ex-provincial incomes will be taxable whether brought into the province or not, unless derived from

investments made before the taxpayer became a resident of the province.

"Income in the hands of co-operative marketing associations will be exempt, but distributions to farmer members will be taxable in their hands, on incomes over \$1,000," Mr. Jones concluded.

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## Revenue From Roads Shows Big Increase Says N.S. Lougheed

Defends Purchases of Machinery During Term as Minister of Public Works—Departmental Estimates Before Committee

REVENUE totaling \$4,500,000 was produced by British Columbia highways in 1930, compared with \$582,000 in 1920, it was revealed by Hon. N. S. Lougheed during discussion of estimates in the Department of Public Works last night. This sum, he said, did not take into account other gains from traffic increases during the ten-year period.

Mr. Lougheed was replying to an attack by A. M. Manson (Liberal, Omineca), who said a "dream" programme had been conceived but the funds had run out before it could be carried into execution. Mr. Manson charged waste and political bias in connection with unemployed relief.

### EXPLAINS EXPENDITURES

Defending the road machinery purchases while he was Minister of Public Works, Mr. Lougheed stated that \$1,615,700 had been spent from the equipment fund before he took office. This included \$262,000 in 1927 and \$393,000 in 1928.

In 1929, the first year of his office, the sum of \$736,000 had been spent on equipment and \$726,000 in the following year, a total of \$1,462,000 under his control. The machinery had been necessary and all of it was in use at this date, he said, while a material saving in the cost of road building had been effected by its use. In 1920 British Columbia roads were valued at \$42,000,000 and in 1930 at \$69,000,000, he declared. In the same period the revenue had increased from \$582,000 to \$4,500,000.

### OPPOSITION UNFAIR

The Opposition had been unfair in its reference to increase in the Department of Public Works costs from \$6,700,000 to \$13,000,000, leaving the inference this was for road

work alone, he continued. The facts were that nearly \$4,000,000 of the sum had been spent for needed accommodation at Essondale, approximately \$2,000,000 for schools, \$2,500,000 for bridges and other works, and \$500,000 for ferries.

The sum of \$4,900,000 had been spent on roads in 1929, and \$4,257,000 in 1930. Every dollar expended had been for value, Mr. Lougheed concluded.

Hon. R. W. Bruhn explains items in the appropriations asked for the Department of Public Works and the reason for the votes. Total expenditures in the department for this year are listed as \$2,507,235, a reduction by \$815,815 from \$3,323,050 last year.

### REDUCTIONS MADE

With their contrasting items for the previous year in brackets, the figures as presented are as follows: Minister's office, \$12,403 (\$12,360); administration, including all offices, \$186,118 (\$310,794); maintenance of Parliament Buildings, services and grounds, \$122,205 (\$151,330); Government House, maintenance, \$22,975 (\$27,610); roads, bridges, ferries and wharfs, etc., less receipts, \$1,956,000 (\$2,495,000); maintenance and repairs to public buildings, \$189,523 (\$209,939); steam boiler inspection, \$2,763 (\$3,070); electrical energy inspection, \$13,747 (\$11,947); unemployment relief, nil (\$100,000); and other items, making a total of \$2,507,235 (\$3,323,050).

### HIGHWAY COMMISSION

G. A. Walkem (Conservative, Vancouver) proposed creation of a Provincial highway commission. Mr. Bruhn said this proposal had been advanced before and every consideration was being given to the suggestion.

Capt. James Fitzsimmons (Conservative, Kaslo-Stocan) was applauded for his suggestion that the members on both sides eliminate politics and get down to devising remedies for aiding the unemployed.

### BUS REGULATIONS

Mr. Bruhn explained at another point that British Columbia regulations in regard to bus operation were under close advisement, but changes would await the report of the national board investigating transportation.

Estimates in the Fisheries Department followed, the total vote being \$20,386, as against \$36,460 last year. General discussion was offered on fisheries and the problem facing British Columbia fishing interests today.

## GAME LICENCES ARE REVIEWED

Administration of Game Branch Is Self-Supporting, Legislature Learns

Amendments to the Game Act, which provide for \$1 angling licence on males over eighteen, and some upward revision of game licences for residents and tourists, received second reading in the Legislature yesterday, piloted by Attorney-General Pooley.

Mr. Pooley took exception to statements made by Opposition members to the effect that game administration was costing between \$150,000 and \$200,000 more under the present system than it had under the control of the provincial police. Game administration in 1927-28, he stated, had cost \$220,411, which was within \$13,000 of the cost of the service last year, at \$233,945.

Of the present staff of sixty-eight, sixty-three were game wardens, of whom thirty were returned soldiers. Of the total staff, forty-nine had been transferred to the game branch from the provincial police, and all game wardens were called on to do police duty at times. The service was supported out of fees collected, and had proved a valuable adjunct to the police on many occasions.

### CITES FIRST BUDGET

A. M. Manson (Liberal, Omineca) cited the first budget of Hon. J. W. Jones as to the cost of the service over a period of years. The cost of game protection shown by Mr. Jones for the year 1927-28 had been \$73,380, but had been followed by a sharp increase under the present regime, he contended. Mr. Pooley said the figures could not have been inclusive of the whole cost for the year 1927-28, but deferred further reference until the vote comes up in committee of supply.

Terms in the bill would increase the resident bird licence from \$2.50 to \$3.50; the bird and bear licence from \$5 to \$6; and the nonresident licence from \$10 to \$12; as well as making provision for the collection of the angling licence, to be devoted to game fish conservation on a comprehensive plan to restock British Columbia fresh water bodies through use of rearing ponds.

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March 31, 1932

## DEPARTMENTAL VOTES VIEWED

T. D. Pattullo Invites B.C.  
Government to Bring on  
Election This Year

Considerable reductions in the estimated expenditures of the Lands Department were reviewed by the Legislature last evening, after the supper recess. Waiving of the forest conservation fund was the largest single item contributing to reduction in the Lands Department, while reduction in personnel showed heavily.

T. D. Pattullo, Leader of the Opposition, asking for a Government explanation for the release of Major Clark, Mr. Pope and other officials of the colonization and other branches of the Lands Department, was sharply reminded by Attorney-General Pooley that he had, when Minister of Lands, retired the former deputy minister of lands, Robert Renwick, who had had fifteen years' service with the province.

His place had been filled by a man brought from Prince Rupert, Robert Renwick had waited seven years for a small retiring allowance of \$50 monthly, and had recently made a request to the present Government for a review of his case, said Mr. Pooley.

Major Clark, Hon. N. S. Loughheed explained had been re-engaged in the service, and was now attached to the Department of Education as official trustee in the Doukhobor colony for the province. Mr. Pope had been retired when his position no longer was necessary, due to a cessation of that work.

### WANTS AN ELECTION

Mr. Pattullo charged the record of the present administration on its dismissals of men would not bear investigation, and was sharply chal-

lenged from the Government benches.

Mr. Pattullo—I challenge the Government to go to the country this year.

Reginald Hayward (Cons., Victoria)—And spend between \$200,000 and \$300,000 for the satisfaction of whom?

Mr. Pattullo—Let the Government submit it to the people. If the people decide in its favor you will hear nothing out of me.

Hon. R. L. Maitland—Confidentially, now, would you take the premiership?

Mr. Pattullo—Confidentially, I think I will get it.

Laughter greeted the exchange. Sitting as a committee on supply, the House continued with the estimates of the Department of Lands.

### HEAVY CUTS MADE

Estimates in the Department of Lands for the fiscal year 1932-33 are \$833,357, a reduction of \$631,627 from \$1,464,984 asked in the year before. The branch votes, with last year's figures in parenthesis following, are as follows:

Minister's office, \$11,422 (\$11,915); total salaries, Lands Branch, \$39,116 (\$38,500); total salaries, Survey Branch, \$74,381 (\$97,524); total salaries, Water Rights Branch, \$56,818 (\$77,403); total salaries, Forest Branch, \$306,399.

Expenses, general office and all

## LEGISLATION IS ADVANCED

Three Bills Pass Third Read-  
ing, and Others Advanced  
Stages in House

Changes in the gasoline tax providing for the increase of 2 cents a gallon were completed in committee of the Legislature yesterday afternoon. Three bills received third reading, and several others were advanced a stage in committee or in debate on second reading.

The Leader of the Opposition, in debate on two amendments to coal and petroleum regulations of the province, led a hot attack on the Government for what he said was

branches are shown as \$139,350 (\$125,000); Colonization Board \$13,189 (\$23,410); forest protection fund, nil (\$480,000); lumber trades extension, \$35,000 (\$20,000); Canadian Forestry Association, \$3,000 (nil); cruising, \$5,000 (\$10,000); forest research, \$4,000 (\$8,000); reforestation, \$3,000 (\$5,000); grazing, \$5,000 (\$4,000); water surveys, nil (\$19,000); hydrometric service, \$11,000 (\$7,500); Soldiers' Land Act, \$19,000 (\$20,000).

Land and topographical surveys are listed at \$20,000 (\$83,000); maps, \$2,000 (\$5,000); superintendent of irrigation, part salary and expenses, \$3,000 (\$6,000); forest reserve account, statutory, \$51,000; all of which, together with sundry items, total \$833,357 (\$1,464,984).

a move to hand over to the rich a virtual monopoly of oil rights in the province.

### MEASURES EXPLAINED

The bills in question had been previously explained by Government speakers as a means of insuring that at least half of all practical development of oil and natural gas assets will accrue to the benefit of the people of the province; and that no rich assets may be perpetually tied up awaiting development by any one company or individual.

Debate was adjourned on the measures, at the request of the Opposition.

### CHIROPRACTIC BILL

Chiropactic and drugless healing bills were called for discussion, but a former ruling by Mr. Speaker Davie intervened. Mr. Speaker reserved final decision as to the exact status of the bills, and as to whether or not they may be altered in committee to comply with the terms of his ruling.

While no official statement has been made in the House, it is understood that Government assent, necessary for certain clauses in the bills, would not likely be withheld.

Action on both measures was stood over, pending Mr. Speaker's decision.

Amendments to the Medical Act, dealing solely with internal affairs of the medical profession, without reference to either chiropractors or drugless healers, were contained in a bill piloted by Dr. G. K. MacNaughton (Cons., Comox), and given second reading. Reginald Hayward (Cons., Victoria), and William Dick (Cons., Vancouver), are sponsoring the chiropractic and drugless healing bills, respectively.

Mr. Maitland introduced for first reading a bill to amend the Distress Act, the chief provision of which would repeal in existing law a section which was enacted two years ago, dealing with release of strangers' goods on sufficient proof that they had no connection with an issue in dispute, where seizure was resorted to as a remedy. The private bills committee reported the Vancouver Incorporation Act.

Province  
April 3, 1932

## HON. J. W. JONES IS COMMENDED

Financial Times Praises His  
Retrenchment Policy and  
Balanced Budget.

### EXAMPLE TO OTHERS

The B. C. Government is keeping its feet on the ground, says the Financial Times of Montreal, in the course of an editorial in which it commends the government's retrenchment policy and the determination of Hon. J. W. Jones to balance the budget. The editorial reads as follows:

It is indeed fortunate for the credit standing of the province and the Dominion that the Government of British Columbia is showing little disposition to adopt the suggestions of the more radical element looking to the confiscation of capital, by the repudiation of outstanding obligations, or a capital levy in order to finance further paternalistic expenditures and experiments. Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance, is taking a very hard-headed view of the financial position and outlook of the province. He is showing a determination to balance the budget—and not by socialistic experiments which would undermine the confidence of investors.

Mr. Jones, who has on previous occasions advocated policies of retrenchment, proposes to balance the budget by the only practical method—by reducing expenditures to the minimum and by increasing taxation when absolutely necessary. To provide against contingencies, his plans indicate a surplus of about \$150,000.

While the reduction in expenditures estimated at \$24,688,000 is only \$3,391,000, it must be remembered that a large portion of these are to take care of interest obligations—or are otherwise uncontrollable. The budget is in keeping with the government's three-year programme of retrenchment to which it has pledged support. The proposals to effect the curtailment of expenditures include: Reductions in civil servants' salaries; ministers' salaries and members' indemnities; revenue income taxes from 1 per cent. on incomes of less than \$1000 up to 10 per cent. on incomes of \$10,000 or more; an increase in gasoline tax to 7 cents; a tax on fuel oil; a tax of 5 per cent. on liquor sales; an increase in the tax on pari-mutuel bets to 7 per cent; a super-tax on land not in school districts, and an increase in the amusement tax.

It is also proposed to shift the increasingly heavy financial burden for social services from the province to the municipalities. Municipalities are to be required to pay approximately \$68,000 for these services, including mothers' pensions, mental hospitals and sanatoriums. In the past, according to Mr. Jones, British Columbia has treated municipalities more generously in the matter of such grants than any other province in Canada. This has, apparently, led to extravagances on the part of the municipalities, which in drawing on the provincial treasury have evaded responsibility to local taxpayers.

It is evident that in British Columbia, as in the other provinces, there are public men who have the courage to meet the economic problems of these troublous days in a practical and courageous way when they are actually brought face to face with a crisis. If the same common-sense were employed by governing bodies at all times there would be fewer of these crises to contend with.



## Offers Scheme to House Committee On Unemployment

Hon. R. W. Bruhn Urges Change in Relief Organization for Coming Year—Says Cities Must Be Helped—M. H. McGeough Called to Ottawa

**C**ONCERTED action to stop the westward flow of idle transients in Canada; segregation of boys under twenty for separate care, perhaps with special schooling; and continuation for the present of public works on highways to take care of married men in unorganized territories, and single men and transients from the cities, were recommended as suggestions before the legislative committee on unemployment yesterday by Hon. R. W. Bruhn.

Mr. Bruhn also proposed group prospecting and placer gold panning for the unemployed, under guidance of engineering experts; and a limited policy of land settlement for those who wished to go on the land with some state aid for the purpose of maintaining themselves. He stressed the fact that municipalities would require materially more aid this year with unemployment relief.

### MANY TRANSIENTS

Speaking to the proposal that Dominion action be taken to stop influx of transients into British Columbia, Mr. Bruhn testified that the province has 30,311 single men on its books, with 11,700 transients additional, or a total of some 42,000 men. This compared with 5,000 single men registered in Alberta and 5,000 in Saskatchewan. He pointed to the extra burden that had to be assumed in the Coast province.

Recognition of this fact had been met by Ottawa in agreeing to join with the province to take half of the cost involved in the caring for single men and transients, which had been done to the greatest extent possible last year, he continued. In the neighborhood of 9,000 men had been taken out of Vancouver under these arrangements, and others elsewhere. His suggestions were advanced personally, and not as a member of the Government, he explained.

### AGREEMENT ON POLICY

Before starting on the programme of highway construction, the province had conferred fully with Dominion officers, and had secured

agreement on the policy, together with an assent towards proceeding with the necessary camps involved. Permanent camps had been placed on main highways, and temporary camps elsewhere. Upwards of 22,000 men had been employed at the peak of the plan, or three times as many as would have normally been provided for in ordinary road works.

There had been considerable pressure both from Ottawa and also from the police and press on the Mainland, to get the men out of the cities, and this had been done as fast as circumstances permitted. Taken as a whole, the amount of work per man given in British Columbia had been low, compared with programmes in Eastern Canada, he averred.

### MUNICIPALITIES AFFECTED

At this date there was no question but that the municipalities were hard pressed to continue relief works for married men, and found the cost of materials burdensome, even where there was any form of work to be done. He believed it would have been impossible for the municipalities to have done more than they did, to meet the situation.

If satisfactory arrangements could be made for the completion of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, continued Mr. Bruhn, it would have a tremendous effect on unemployment, and would be a great aid in meeting that situation. Such

extension, however, would be costly and he was not prepared to advocate action in advance of its feasibility from financial and other standpoints.

### CROSS-EXAMINATION

On cross-examination, Mr. Bruhn said he could not recall from memory at what figure municipal programmes had been recommended to Ottawa. Lumber bought for the camps had ranged from \$9 to \$18 per 1,000 feet, depending on supply from Coast or Interior mills. No excessive price had been paid, except possibly on small emergency lots. As far as practicable, the business had been given to operating mills, to aid continuation of their operations.

Some lumber had been bought from the Consolidated Exporters, Ltd., from stock, at a special price offered by reason of lack of export markets for the lumber.

### STIMULATE PLACER MINING

Touching on the suggestion that men be got out of the cities to wash gold on British Columbia streams under competent direction, Mr. Bruhn stated that Australia now had 8,000 men engaged on a similar plan. It would give an additional form of employment, which, to his mind, would embrace a reasonable hope of productive return in gold production.

Hon. W. A. McKenzie, chairman of the Cabinet committee on unemployment, took the stand, to deny that the province had at any time recommended a reduction of municipal programmes to Ottawa. It had been fully understood that Ottawa would only allot authorization up to \$2,750,000 for this purpose, and this had been repeatedly stated at the committee meetings, attended by M. H. McGeough, Federal relief official in British Columbia.

Mr. McKenzie denied in person the "cousin" rumor. H. T. Hatfield, who had done contract hauling for the Government on the Tulameen Road, was not a relation of his or of his family, he stated. This was the third time the same rumor has been denied before legislative committees this year. The original story arose from a letter from an up-country resident to a Liberal member on the committee.

### MUNICIPAL VOUCHERS

J. A. Craig, comptroller general, was recalled, and stated that vouchers passed by the comptroller general and audit branches up to March 20, 1932, for municipal works, totaled \$1,471,590, of which the Dominion share was \$735,795, and the provincial share, \$263,512. The amount subject to advance on municipal account was \$382,842, and \$69,440, the sum paid by the municipalities out of their own resources.

Vouchers passed by the comptroller general and audit branches on provincial works, and provincial and municipal direct relief, up to March 20, 1932, totaled \$3,931,513, said Mr. Craig. Of this sum \$1,965,785 would be the Dominion

share of provincial work and direct relief. The vouchers included \$2,986,081 in provincial works, \$466,980 in Provincial and Dominion direct relief, and \$478,450 in Provincial and Dominion costs towards municipal direct relief.

Owing to the fact that the vouchers had been held up at Ottawa, after Mr. McGeough had challenged some of the certificates to be sent forward, little payment had been received by the province yet on these accounts. Up to March 20 last \$114,631 had been remitted by Ottawa on its own account, \$96,000 towards Provincial direct relief and \$18,431 towards municipal direct relief; and there was now outstanding a sum of \$1,851,124 in respect to the vouchers detailed.

### DELAYS ADMITTED

P. Walker, Deputy Provincial Secretary, told of the method of handling direct relief, and said some delay had necessarily occurred. Vancouver accounts for direct relief had been held back several months, originally through several mistakes occurring in these accounts, and later for lack of funds when Federal payments were suspended, after differences between Mr. McGeough and the Provincial officials on voucher certificates.

E. D. Johnson, Deputy Minister of Finance, told of a suggestion by the province that British Columbia be allowed to advance \$200,000 from relief funds, to cover part of the Dominion share to the municipalities, to tide over the gap until payments could legally be resumed after passage of Federal legislation. This plan had not carried, he said. As shown in the report of the Dominion Director of Relief, \$182,000 of the Dominion accounting to the province for old age pensions had been set off against loans advanced to the province.

### HELD FOR LEGISLATION

At the present time upwards of \$300,000 of Vancouver vouchers were held by the province, pending authorization of the Dominion's share, said Mr. Johnson. The Federal authorities had only received the voucher certificates recently, at which time legislative authority under the 1931 relief act had run out. At the beginning of March, Ottawa had passed \$198,000 of the Vancouver vouchers, but the province had had no funds of its own with which to make payment.

The final position at the moment was that \$1,900,000 on Dominion account had been expended, and that \$1,800,000 had been advanced on loan to the province on its treasury bills, leaving \$223,000 spent on Dominion account more than had been received by the province. This would be rectified when the new legislation could be acted on, Mr. Johnson concluded.

M. H. McGeough, whose actions have been woven all through the proceedings of the unemployment committee, was summoned suddenly to Ottawa last week, and arrived there on Saturday, H. D. Twigg, chairman of the committee, informed its members. Even if the committee had voted to do so, it could not have recalled Mr. McGeough for that reason, he said.

The committee has been instructed to present its report by Friday.

## GOVERNMENT IS UPHOLD IN VOTE

Three Divisions on Important Changes in Policy Support Ministry

Three divisions were called in the Legislature yesterday afternoon, as a welcome surcease from extended argument on second reading of bills with a revenue outlook. In the bill to hand on to municipalities a reasonable part of institutional costs, the Government was supported 28-11. A companion measure assessing a part of the cost of mothers' pensions on civic communities, passed second reading by 28-12.

Division on second reading of the redistribution measure, by way of amendment to the Constitution Act, was polled at 27-12, after considerable debate, which is elsewhere recorded. Reduction in legislative members' indemnities from \$2,000 to \$1,800, and reduction of the total membership of the House from forty-eight to forty-seven are the chief effects of the bill.

Second reading of the bill dealing with the liability of municipalities for a share of institutional costs was carried on straight party lines. J. A. Loutet (Cons., North Vancouver), voted with the Opposition against the change in the Mothers' Pensions Act, on an otherwise straight party poll.

Dr. L. E. Borden (Cons., Nelson), and Reginald Hayward (Cons., Victoria), voted with the Opposition on the redistribution measure; Dr. Borden on the ground that he could not agree with changes in the Nelson-Creston area, and Mr. Hayward on the general ground that not sufficient reduction was made in the total membership of the House.

Colonist  
April 9, 1932

## TWO ISLAND SEATS ARE JOINED IN NEW PLAN OF DISTRICTS

**Old Nanaimo Constituency Merged With Alberni  
—Vancouver to Have Nine Members Representing Four Civic Districts—Victoria Not Disturbed—Nelson and Creston United**

NANAIMO, one of the oldest constituencies in British Columbia, disappears as a separate electoral entity in the Redistribution Bill introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. J. Hinchliffe. In future it will be merged with Alberni under the title of Alberni-Nanaimo.

No change is made in Victoria's representation.

Creston, at present represented in the House by Colonel Fred Lister (Conservative), will also disappear, being merged with the city of Nelson in a new district to be known as "Nelson."

Columbia district is divided between Cranbrook and Revelstoke.

Vancouver City will be divided into four electoral divisions represented by nine members.

### NEW RIDING

The Peace River district will be accorded representation under a district of that name.

The foregoing are the chief changes in the bill. Minor alterations are made in the boundaries of some districts.

As a result of the changes the next Legislature will be represented by forty-seven instead of forty-eight members, a reduction of one.

The four seats in Vancouver replace the election at large of six members for the city, as constituted in 1928; one for South Vancouver and one for Richmond-Point Grey. There is a net gain of one member in Vancouver.

### DUAL REPRESENTATION

Vancouver Burrard will have two members; Vancouver Centre, two; Vancouver East, two; and Vancouver Point Grey, three. The latter will include the university area. This means the elimination of South Vancouver as a separate constituency. This division is now represented by Jack Cornett (Conservative).

The two Island constituencies which are affected to a major extent are Alberni and Nanaimo. The former is represented by L. A. Hanna, and the latter by George Pearson, both Liberals.

Dr. L. E. Borden represents Nelson riding, which is being amalgamated with Creston.

The new riding of Peace River is being carved from that of Fort George, now represented by Dr. R. W. Alward (Conservative).

Columbia riding, which disappears, is at present represented by Thomas King (Liberal). It will be divided between the two districts of Revelstoke and Cranbrook, the former represented by Dr. W. H. Sutherland and the latter by F. M. MacPherson, both Liberal members of the present House.

Colonist  
March 30, 1932

## Gasoline Tax Bill Is Supported Upon Division in House

**Taxation Measures Advanced a Stage in Resumption of Legislative Assembly After Holidays  
—Prorogation Expected Next Week**

IN an afternoon devoted to public bills, the Legislature made considerable headway yesterday with taxation measures, advancing several bills by second reading and completing others in committee, ready for third readings later in the week. From present expectations, the House will sit all this week and about half of next before prorogation of the session.

The gasoline tax, trades licences, amusement tax and several other measures were up for discussion, the gas tax increase from five to seven cents being supported on division by twenty-nine to twelve on second reading.

The bill increasing the tax on amusements received second reading without division.

Speaking to the gas tax, Government members stated that all of the gasoline tax, all of motor licence receipts in provincial hands, and about \$1,000,000 in addition had been spent last year on the upkeep of roads in the province.

### COST MAY LESSEN

The Federal gas price inquiry, they said, could be expected to cheapen the cost of gasoline in British Columbia, perhaps below its present level, even with the addition of the two-cent additional tax proposed in the bill. Four Western provinces have now joined in united requests for Federal investigation of the price at which motor fuel is sold, and action would result, it was stated. The House divided on second reading of the bill on straight party lines.

Routine changes in the Companies Clauses Act, made necessary by

continued on Page 2, Column 3

amendments to the Companies Act, received second reading without debate.

Debate was adjourned by the Opposition on consideration of a bill to amend the Coal and Petroleum Act, by removing oil and natural gas from its direction, for treatment by special legislation already outlined.

Debate was similarly adjourned on the B.C. Film Quota Bill, after desultory criticism of the measure by the Opposition, as likely to be burdensome on small theatres and ineffective as a trade stimulus. J. W. Cornett (Cons., South Vancouver) is to reply.

Amendments to the Milk Act, providing for public notification as to the use of reconstituted milk, were completed in committee.

### PARI-MUTUEL RECEIPTS

Amendments to the Municipalities Aid Act, dealing with pari-mutuel receipts, ran a gauntlet of fire from the Opposition, when it was stated that \$235,000 was expected from the increased tax on racing wagers and \$170,000 would be the limit of this handed on to the municipalities. Municipalities had at no time received more, Government speakers stated. The bill was completed in committee.

Licensing of dance halls, provided in amendments to the Trades Licences Act, was considered in committee and the bill halted a stage, after criticism of its wording, under which, Opposition members held, community halls could be charged \$5 nightly, in addition to an amusement tax on their patrons. Hon. J. W. Jones explained the Government had no intention of taxing community halls or places other than commercial dance establishments in unorganized territories, and this at a rate already provided in existing laws, but varied to make payment easier. Progress was reported on the bill.

The Cultus Lake Park Bill, a public bill in the hands of J. W. Berry (Cons., Delta) was completed in committee, not without some strictures from members of the private bills committee, who said the measure had been poorly drawn and had virtually been redrafted in committee.

The House rose at 5:44 p.m. until 8:30 p.m., when it went into committee of supply on estimates in the Departments of Lands and Works.

Colonist  
April 1, 1932

## GASOLINE TAX PASSES HOUSE

**New Petroleum Leases Attacked and Defended in Brief Debate**

British Columbia's new gas tax was enacted yesterday, subject to Royal assent, in third reading of the bill to raise the tax by two cents, as provided in the budget of Hon. J. W. Jones. Third reading was given to amendments to the Vancouver Incorporation Act, and several other bills were advanced a stage. New amendments to the Municipal Act, to the Bills of Sale Act and to the Conditional Sales Act were introduced for first reading, the first named having an important bearing on civic tax rates and is explained elsewhere.

The House moved to print the report on state health insurance, at the suggestion of the printing committee, and held further debate on the Coal and Petroleum Act and other measures. A. M. Manson (Liberal, Omineca) followed the lead of T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, on the day previous, and attacked amending regulations to petroleum and natural gas control as "monopolistic."

In defending the bill, Hon. N. S. Loughheed said its terms gave authority to the Province to grant leases on oil lands for development, under rigid and adequate safeguards, insuring a fair return to the people of the country on any discoveries made.

The House rose at 5:35 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. today. The unemployment committee is to hold its seventeenth meeting, starting at 10 a.m. today.



## TREASURY IS TO CONTROL

Hon. J. W. Jones Introduces  
Bill Providing Exacting  
Safeguards

As indicated in his budget, Hon. J. W. Jones introduced in the Legislature yesterday a bill to bring about treasury control in public expenditures by the British Columbia Government, contained in amendments to the Revenue Act, which received first reading. The support of the bill is to give power to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council to make whatever regulations are necessary to insure full treasury control, presumably under a standing sub-committee of the Cabinet.

Specific clauses give power:

(a) To provide for the comparative checking of current collections and expenditures, and for regulating the increase or reduction of authorized expenditures on the basis of actual collections.

### SAFEGUARDS LISTED

(b) To provide safeguards of expenditure, based on the consent of the Department of Finance as well as the department in charge of the service in question, having regard to the state of the revenue and the general financial situation existing from time to time.

(c) To prevent overcommitment in respect of any appropriation of the Legislature, or in respect of any sum borrowed or to be borrowed by the Minister of Finance, and to prevent undue expenditure, having regard to the unexpired portion of the expenditure period intended to be covered by any appropriation or borrowing.

### DOUBLE CHECK MOOTED

The bill would place wide powers in the hands of the Minister of Finance, and any sub-committee of the Cabinet that was decided upon to conduct its regulations. It provides for what amounts to a clear-cut signal from the Controller-General's office before any expenditure can be made, to show that the money is available, voted for the purpose, and rightly to be expended in regard to all contingent circumstances. All expenditures made to meet emergent needs would have to be reported to the Controller-General immediately.

Introduction of the bill is being taken as another indication that the Government intends to place the tightest possible watch on expenditures this year, on a budget that is nearly \$5,000,000 less than appropriations of last year.

## Two-Year Hoist of Fixed General Tax Advanced in House

Municipal Act Changes Would Waive Twenty-Mill  
Limit During 1932 and 1933, Permitting  
Thirty-Five Mills for General Purposes

**R**ELIEF for British Columbia municipalities, puzzled by a fixed statutory limit of twenty mills on the dollar for general purposes, appeared on the legislative horizon yesterday with introduction of amendments to the Municipal Act which would waive for two years this arbitrary maximum, and permit of a levy up to thirty-five mills for general purposes.

Victoria City is among many centres that have been faced with a quandary by the original law. The variation would apply only during 1932 and 1933. In addition, the present limit of taxation on 50 per cent of improvements could be raised to 75 per cent under the proposed amendments.

The amending bill was introduced by Attorney-General Pooley, and received first reading without discussion. It has eighteen sections, two of which are of considerable importance to British Columbia municipal centres.

### COMMISSIONER CONTROL

In addition to the proposed waiving of the fixed rate on general purposes is a clause providing for the setting up of commissioner control in any centre that may temporarily be forced to suspend payment on its obligations. No actual suspension is feared, it is stated.

Subject to an order from the Supreme Court, the Province would appoint a commissioner with full authority to run the affairs of any centre until such time as stability was again reached.

General powers in the bill would give a conditional measure of discretion to the Provincial authorities to pass regulations deemed necessary for meeting any situation that might arise in this connection.

### PREPARATION OF BILL

The full purport of the bill has yet to be explained to the House, but its preparation is a result of recommendations made by the municipal committee after careful consultation with many city officials and with Robert Baird, inspector of municipalities.

Another clause in the bill would give municipalities power to regulate, license and, if necessary, padlock cabarets. Clarification of civic rights in dealing with hypothecated securities is aimed at in other sections of the measure. Assessment anomalies; collection of charges, other than taxes, when in arrears; and an important redefinition of the restricted powers of councils to grant fixed taxation up to a period of ten years, are included in a comprehensive measure, which will come up for second reading shortly.



# NEARLY MILLION CUT IN VOTES

## Huge Reduction Shown in Educational Estimates This Year

Estimates in the Department of Education, showing a reduction of \$91,098 below appropriations of last year, were considered by the Legislature yesterday, sitting in committee on supply. The total vote asked is \$3,946,012, compared to \$4,737,110 for 1931-32. The estimates include salary grants to civic and rural schools totaling \$2,196,526, of which cities and municipalities are to receive \$1,486,526 and rural school districts \$713,000.

Nine-tenths of the educational votes were ratified before the committee rose to report progress for the day. The University grant was not reached, but grants to municipalities, operations of the textbook branch, and the problem of teenage boys and girls finished school but without employment, came in for considerable discussion.

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe explained items in the estimates, and received commendation which was not confined to Government benches.

### PROBLEM RAISED

Serious problems have been raised by large numbers of boys and girls, of the age of seventeen years and upwards, who are through their schooling but who cannot find employment in these times, the House was told. The Leader of the Opposition suggested that they be permitted to continue at school rather than go idle. J. A. Louet (Conservative, North Vancouver) proposed that activities such as the Summer camps of the Canadian Forestry Association be devised to employ their time.

Reginald Hayward (Conservative, Victoria) pointed to the serious drain on public funds of the continuance at school of pupils over the age at which provision must be maintained for their tuition. More than eight hundred such were registered at one high school in the province, he said. To his mind, school boards had not taken sufficient advantage of their existing remedies to charge a part of the cost of the maintenance of such pupils on the parents concerned, the majority of whom were well able to pay, he asserted. He cited the case of a girl who had remained in Victoria High School for nine years, in a successful but belated effort to win the Governor-General's Medal, and which he asserted had actually occurred some years ago.

### ORGY OF SPENDING

A. M. Manson (Liberal, Omineca) said he was concerned with the growth of juvenile misdemeanors, stating continuance at school to be preferable at any cost to the spread of wild conduct or lawlessness.

Col. Nelson Spencer (Conservative, Vancouver) halted the discussion. Nobody questioned the advantages of higher education, but its cost had become burdensome after a world orgy of overspending in the last decade, he said.

Mr. Hinchliffe explained the operation of the textbook branch, and said the present system had made price profiteering in school books impossible. This year it is proposed to finance book purchases by \$150,000 from consolidated revenue, to be returned when the books are sold to dealers or parents. In addition, \$57,200 is set aside for the provision of free readers in the schools, though books so granted will be expected to last longer, by being reused in the same families or else reclaimed at half their value.

### STATES CIRCUMSTANCES

Circumstances leading to the dismissal of J. A. Anderson, formerly in charge of the textbook branch, were outlined to the House by Mr. Hinchliffe, at the request of L. A. Hanna (Liberal, Alberni). Mr. Hinchliffe said this course had fol-

lowed several warnings and had been for valid cause. The official had later been re-engaged in another capacity.

P. M. Barr was placed in charge of the textbook branch as successor to Mr. Anderson. Salary set for the position this year was challenged on the ground that it exceeded that of the provincial librarian.

### OTHER ESTIMATES

Other items in the estimates considered, with the corresponding figures for last year in parenthesis,

were as follows: Minister's office, \$10,470 (\$12,420); general office, \$29,419 (\$31,256); high school correspondence courses, \$23,414 (\$21,465); elementary correspondence courses, \$8,101 (\$7,284); industrial education, \$41,073 (\$67,170); inspection of schools, \$97,596 (\$103,175); Vancouver Normal School, \$31,396 (\$35,330); Victoria Normal School, \$24,058 (\$29,206); schools for deaf and blind, \$30,115 (\$30,534); new buildings and repairs, \$50,000 (\$117,000); transportation of pupils to school, \$85,000 (\$85,000); allowances to soldiers' dependent children, \$12,000 (\$15,000); examination of teachers, \$10,000, and an item of \$223,200 for teachers' salaries in assisted schools, for a three-month period.

The University grant, to come up later, is shown as \$250,000, made up of \$241,100 in general grant and \$8,900 for the teachers' training course. This compares with \$462,700 in the aggregate last year. The total votes for the department are shown as \$3,196,012, down nearly \$1,000,000 from the figure of \$4,117,110 in the year previous.

## LEGISLATURE CLEARS DECK

### Moratorium and Workmen's Compensation Measures Are Outlined in House

Final reading and enactment, subject to the royal assent, was given in the Legislature yesterday afternoon to six measures, while remaining bills on the order paper were completed in committee, ready for the final sitting. Amendments to the Game Act, Provincial Elections Act, Superannuation Act, Shops Regulation Act, Constitution Act (redistribution), and the Fuel Oil Tax Act, 1930, were finally passed. Preparations were made to get ready for prorogation today.

The chief measure before the House for debate was that to provide for a moratorium on principal sums on mortgages and agreements, exclusive of interest and taxes. Attorney-General Pooley explained the intent of the measure and debate followed, in which the Government was invited to extend the scope of the moratorium proposed.

### MANY-SIDED QUESTION

In consideration of any general moratorium, a great variety of viewpoints had to be considered, said Mr. Pooley. While it was the desire of the Government to give relief to the borrower, it had also to be careful to see that the lender was not placed in just as bad a plight as the recipient would be without the proposed stay by judicial reference.

The present bill, he stated, was along the lines of the laws in Ontario and Alberta, providing for a moratorium on principal sums under specified heads, but not applicable to taxes, interest or life insurance premiums. The general intent of the bill was to place in the hands of the courts a wider measure of control over the respective equities of lenders and borrowers, to see that no one would unjustly suffer.

A. M. Manson (Lib., Omineca), proposed that instead of specific language, the moratorium be applied in a short bill in general terms, confined to the intent, and leaving the weight of decision with the courts. The principle of a fixed moratorium would create hardship on many, he averred. He concurred that abatement of interest and taxes on any general plan would not be in the best interest, but would invite abuses which had followed the wartime moratorium and which had driven many to the wall.

### WOULD WIDEN ACT

T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, thought the measure was not wide enough in its terms. He concurred in court review of the justice of action in each case, but thought that interest as well as principal ought to be left open to such review.

Exemption from the act of municipal agreements would bear heavily on home owners, and property reversions would follow, Mr. Manson believed.

In so far as Vancouver was concerned, property owners had the effect of a three-year lapse in which to make up their tax arrears before tax sale became operative finally, said G. A. Walkem (Cons., Vancouver).

Forty small real estate dealers of Vancouver had asked him to say that they favored a year's moratorium on principal sums and on taxes, but that interest should be kept paid up, William Dick (Cons., Vancouver), stated. Vancouver had 700 taxpayers on relief now, and confiscation of property would add to this evil, he declared, unless something was done to offset it.

### HAD MANY ANGLES

Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., pointed to the position of the relatively small investor, holding mortgages, and who, if shut off from all revenue, would be in a worse case than those it was proposed to help. Moratorium plans had many angles, he said.

The wartime moratorium law had been much abused, Mr. Maitland continued, and any effort to make the terms of the present law too sweeping would be followed by abuses which would have a counter effect to that proposed to bring about. Under normal process it required some nine months to foreclose, and this period, at the discretion of the courts, could well be slightly extended, without giving any such blanket powers as suggested by some members of the House, he concluded.

J. W. Berry (Cons., Delta) and Col. Nelson Spencer (Cons., Vancouver) spoke in support of the bill as it stood.

### MUNICIPAL VIEWPOINT

Mayor A. W. Gray (Lib., New Westminster) pointed to the fact that many cities were owed taxes for two years now on a large volume of property, and did not want this property. Under existing municipal law, it would go to tax sale this year, in the third period, while 15 per cent interest was chargeable on taxation arrears.

It would be cheaper in the long run to devise ways of keeping people on their property, particularly farmers who wished to stay there. He would be in favor of widening the scope of the bill to bring in taxes and interest, both at the discretion of the courts, Mr. Gray said.

"In connection with municipalities, we would welcome anything that would give us the opportunity of extending time for the payment of tax arrears," Mr. Gray concluded, stating he was in general sympathy with the purposes of the bill.

Loan companies were demanding very high interest rates for renewals, as high as 10 per cent in some cases, and the whole field of tax collection was a grave matter, said Mr. Dick, pressing for inclusion of tax payments in the moratorium.

### MEASURE REASONABLE

T. H. Kirk (Cons., Vancouver) regarded the measure reasonable as presented. He would be willing to agree to inclusion of taxes in the

proposed stay of payment, if the Government felt at liberty in going that far. The whole question was a delicate one, and not to be rushed at too whole-heartedly in any direction, he averred.

Mr. Pooley closed debate on the issue for the time being, stating that operation of the wartime moratorium had served to drive large capital out of British Columbia, due to the abuses that had crept into plans designed at that time to provide general relief for those pressed in meeting future obligations. He said he would take the presentations made under advisement during the supper recess.

### WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

First and second readings to a bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act followed. Mr. Pooley explained the changes were approved by the board and designed generally to give relief to industry in regard to the assessments that had to be met for the operation of the plan.

It was proposed to establish a "merit rating" in industries in regard to accident prevention; to adjust interest sums on funds temporarily transferred from one class to another under the act; to provide for proper estimates of payroll commitments by employers; to legalize payments of medical aid for injuries under three days' duration; to take power to assess employers for improvements made to plants under orders of the board, and to make other adjustments in the operation of the scheme.

### ACCUMULATED FUNDS

In relation to the accumulated funds of the board, Mr. Pooley said it was proposed to use the services of a highly-trained actuary to see if any surplus existed above requirements that could be used to make things easier for industry in the next few years.

Four or five calls had been made on the logging industry last year, with payments at the rate of 9 1/2 per cent per annum, an increase from 3 1/2 per cent a few years ago. It was proposed in the present bill to give power to spread the assessment over a term of years to lighten the load on industry in difficult times.

Suggested changes in personnel on the board were not touched in the bill, Mr. Pooley said finally, in answer to further questions.

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April 14, 1932

## PARTY CONVENTION AGAIN DEMANDED

Conservatives of Division  
One Reiterate Request  
For Gathering.

Division One Conservative Association, which several months ago urged a provincial convention of the party, returned to the subject at a meeting Thursday night. The division endorsed a resolution recently passed by the central executive of the city association, asking for a convention at the earliest possible moment.

One speaker defended the action of the party leaders in not holding a convention at this time. He was given a stormy passage by indignant members of the audience, receiving so many interruptions that he was forced to take his seat.

President Walter H. Raines and other speakers declared that those in authority were defeating their own ends by refusal to give members of the party a right to express themselves. A convention, they asserted, will iron out most of the party's difficulties.

Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance, addressed a meeting of Division Five Conservative Association Thursday night.

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1932

## WILD TALK ON P.G.E. HARMFUL

Negotiations Are Being Con-  
tinued Without Fresh  
Development

Answering newspaper queries as to the credibility of Seattle reports on negotiations for the sale of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, Premier Tolmie said yesterday no fresh development has taken place in the matter and no sale has been effected. Negotiations are still being carried on with interests in contact with the British Columbia Government, but had not yet reached a point where public discussion would be of any service, he stated.

At the same time Premier Tolmie commented on Mainland reports dealing with the proposed construction of a motor road into the Peace area from British Columbia. Spoken to by private interests, the proposal could scarcely be considered timely and might be prejudicial to the best interests of the province in regard to the P.G.E. affair, he intimated.

### THROTTLES EFFORTS

"If there is anything more likely to choke the life out of any prospect the Province has of making a satisfactory solution of its railway problem, it is the suggestion that competition be set up for the Government-owned line by fleets of motor buses running to the Peace area," the Premier commented.

A great deal of nonsense had been written about the P.G.E. negotiations, he continued, with some stories going to the length of saying the Government had already signed agreements for the sale of the road. The public might rest assured that when that day came it would be properly and fully informed. In the meantime, no good could come from misrepresentation of the facts, the Premier concluded.

# House Prorogues After Two Months' Strenuous Labor

Hon. J. W. Fordham Johnson Releases Members  
From Many Weeks' Continuous Sittings and  
Heaviest Programme of Present Legisla-  
ture—Sixty-Seven Acts Passed

EIGHT weeks to the day from the date it convened, the fourth session of the Seventeenth Legislature of British Columbia was prorogued at 11:30 o'clock yesterday morning by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor. The brief ceremony included the arrival of Hon. J. W. Fordham Johnson, his assent to the acts of the session in the name of His Majesty, and the customary closing address of thanks for the passage of supply.

The battle of sessional papers and cushions followed, as Members broke the restraint of the longest and hardest session in the memory of the present Legislature.

Side by side with the sittings of the Legislature for six of the eight weeks had gone the work of the select committee on unemployment, involving almost continuous duties for a large number in the House. The report of the committee was adopted at 2 o'clock yesterday morning, after an all-night debate in which the Government was vigorously supported and which closed with a division of 25-9 on adoption of the report.

### GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

In his closing address His Honor said:

"Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

"In closing this the fourth session of the Seventeenth Parliament of the Province of British Columbia, it is my desire to express my appreciation of the attention which you have given to the many important questions submitted for your consideration.

"The bill ratifying the agreements with the Dominion and the municipalities respecting the relief of unemployment, and providing further powers for dealing with this important subject, is expected to afford a needed measure of relief during the existing commercial and industrial depression.

"The bill providing for the issuance of provisional free miners' certificates, and the suspension of the requirements as to payment of recording fees in respect of placer mining claims, is expected to stimulate prospecting and to afford a means of useful employment, as well as development in the mining industry.

"The bill for the relief of mortgagors and purchasers of lands is expected to afford a measure of relief to owners of land who are seriously distressed by the present financial conditions.

"The bill respecting petroleum and natural gas is expected to protect the public interest in connection with the development of the petroleum and natural gas resources of the province.

"The bills amending the Bills of Sale Act and the Conditional Sales Act, for the purpose of establishing a system of central registration of liens affecting motor vehicles, is expected to afford an additional means of preventing frauds in connection with dealings in motor vehicles.

"The bill amending the Provincial Elections Act contains provisions to facilitate the more frequent revision and correction of Provincial voters' lists.

"The bill amending the Insurance Act enacts new provisions respecting automobile insurance, and in connection with amendments enacted to the Motor Vehicle Act provides a needed measure of protection to the public in respect of accidents, and is expected to prevent the use of the highways by irresponsible drivers.

"The bill amending the Land Act is designed to facilitate the disposal of Crown lands by rendering it easier for settlers to acquire such lands.

"The amendments to the Municipal Act are designed to facilitate the conduct of municipal affairs.

"The bill amending the Public Schools Act is intended to extend the basis of taxation for school purposes in municipal and rural school districts, so as to relieve the burden of taxation on land.

"I trust that these and the various other laws and amendments you have enacted will inure to the welfare of the province.

"I thank you for the supplies so generously granted for the public service.

"In releasing you from your labors, I trust that the blessing of Providence will accompany you to your respective homes."

### BATTLE OF PAPERS

Hon. S. L. Howe, Provincial Secretary, announced His Honor's wish that the session be prorogued, and the gubernatorial party retired. Singing of the National Anthem closed the proceedings.

The break-up and the annual battle of papers followed, sheafs of sessional documents being sent flying into the air, like droves of white pigeons, to settle in gathering clusters on the royal blue carpet of the august chamber.

Political friends and foes crossed hands in hearty adieu, while the Liberal bloc made mock ceremony around a "tombstone" to Columbia and Alberni ridings, redistributed into the limbo of amalgamated ridings of yesterday.

### ROYAL ASSENT GIVEN

Forty-eight acts were assented to in the name of His Majesty, in addition to nineteen others previously ratified. The list of those assented to yesterday included the following measures in amendment of existing laws, except where otherwise noted:

Vital Statistics Act, Moving Pictures Act, Provincial Elections Act, Insurance Act, Shops Regulation Act, Execution Act, Government Liquor Act, Motor Vehicle Act, Public Schools Act, Land Act, Amusements Tax Act, Gasoline Tax Act, Municipalities Aid Act, Companies Act, Game Act, Coal and Petroleum Act, Jury Act, Company Clauses

Act, Medical Act, Distress Act, Bills of Sale Act, Conditional Sales Act, Greater Vancouver Water District Act, Barbers' Act, Savings and Loan Associations Act, Victoria Lumber & Manufacturing Company, Limited, 1921, Agricultural Act, Teachers' Pensions Act, Village Municipalities Act, Taxation Act, Special Revenue Tax Act, Superannuation Act, Fuel-Oil Tax Act, Constitution Act, Revenue Act, Radium Act and Workmen's Compensation Act.

### NEW LAWS PASSED

New laws were promulgated in relation to canned fish and canneries, provincial control of insurance, regulation of oil and natural gas development, the Loan Act of 1932, creation of Cultus Lake Park, the new Income Tax Act, Unemployment Relief Act, Moratorium Act and definition of the liability of municipalities in regard to institutional costs and the main 1932 Supply Act.

The Contributory Negligence Act and amendments to the Trades Licence Act were allowed to die on the order paper, both being minor changes which the Legislature did not bring into effect.

## PATIENT NEED

Hon. J. W. Jones  
view of Province  
in Address

If Canadians find with the same force shown by those but little complained in this Dominion Victoria, Hon. J. mented in an address to the Victoria W. tive Association.

Mr. Jones gave Provincial finance the fact that need been sliced from expenditures this falling revenues a \$2,000,000 between the Province had additional taxation books, he contended that taxation had equitably as possible over the widest part

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## PATIENCE IS NEED OF DAY

Hon. J. W. Jones Gives Re-  
view of Provincial Finances  
in Address Here

If Canadians faced their troubles with the same fortitude and resolve shown by those in Great Britain, but little complaint would be heard in this Dominion from Halifax to Victoria, Hon. J. W. Jones commented in an address last evening to the Victoria Women's Conservative Association.

Mr. Jones gave a brief resume of Provincial finances, and stressed the fact that nearly \$5,000,000 had been sliced from British Columbia's expenditures this year. Faced with falling revenues and a gap of some \$2,000,000 between income and outgo, the Province had had recourse to additional taxation to balance its books, he contended. This additional taxation had been placed as equitably as possible, and spread over the widest possible number of

people, so that the burden would not fall too heavily on anyone.

### ANSWERS MR. PATTULLO

Mr. Jones took issue with remarks made by T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, in a recent speech at Oak Bay, and declared that in the twelve years in which the Government, of which he had been a prominent and influential member, had been in office, it had added 104 new items of taxation, and had piled up the public debt to the tune of nearly \$8,000,000 for every year of its rule.

Most of the difficulty faced by the present administration had come from the unwise policies of the late Government, including the taking over of the P.G.E. Railway, on which the Province's obligations had been initially \$20,000,000, but had grown through the years to be some \$65,000,000, Mr. Jones stated.

### "WILL TELL HIM SO"

Mr. Pattullo had talked a deal of the "orgy of extravagance" indulged in by the present ministry, but in eight weeks of the last session he had been unable to point to any particular item as an extravagance for which warrant could not be found. Mr. Pattullo had criticized at every turn, and had stooped to tactics which added nothing to the public weal in his efforts to cry down the present Government. In this he had failed, and "the people will tell him so" when the appropriate day arrives, Mr. Jones pre-

dicted. Two and a half million acres of reverted lands, and a Provincial dollar was the heritage the Province received from the late Government, he declared.

Mr. Jones discussed briefly the terms of the last budget, told the reason for taxation changes, and appealed for confidence in the ability of the Province to retrieve its former position, with courage, diligence and patience. He was accorded a hearty reception.

H. D. Twigg, M.P.P., and James H. Beatty, M.P.P., occupied seats on the platform. Mrs. F. Kilsby presided at a well-attended meeting, followed by a social hour.

Province  
June 5, 1932

## B. C. LONDON LOAN FULLY SUBSCRIBED

Government Congratulated  
By Leading Financial  
Authorities.

VICTORIA, June 4.—British Columbia's return to the London market for money after an absence of nearly twenty years has been attended by an outstanding success, it is apparent from reports in the hands of the treasury officials of the government.

An unscribed stock loan of £1,500,000 was underwritten in its entirety. It was offered to the public first between 99 and 99.25 per £100, and was in brisk demand among investors.

The government has been congratulated on its move by leading financial authorities of the country, and its example will most likely be followed by other Canadian interests in the near future, it was stated at the finance department.

## REGISTRATION TO BEGIN SOON

Cabinet Studies Alternative  
Methods of Compiling  
Voters' Lists

Active plans for compilation of new voters' lists in Victoria and Vancouver were under consideration by the Provincial Government yesterday, with two alternatives receiving attention as possible means of renewing the lists now cancelled.

A house-to-house canvass by enumerators, who would take applications for registration is one method being considered. The other is the opening of offices at downtown locations, and inviting the public to step in and attend to registrations there. An early decision will be reached on the matter, it was stated.

The house-to-house plan is that followed by the Federal Government, only that enumerators would have power to take applications for registration in the homes, compiling the lists from actual visits to the voters in their residences.

The central office plan, on the other hand, was followed in 1920 under a former Provincial Government, and consisted of opening registration offices in central locations, where the public could apply for registration.

### IS ADDITIONAL MEANS

Which ever method is finally chosen, it will be in addition to the normal means of registration, open at all times to the electorate, under which registrars and duly qualified voting commissioners can handle applications for inclusion on the voters' lists.

Under recent amendment to the Provincial Elections Act, provision is made for monthly sittings of the court of revision, so that if the lists are not complete at any one period, they can be reviewed at a subsequent sitting of the court.

Members of the Government made it plain that the fullest possible opportunity will be offered to people to get their names on the new Provincial voters' lists. Victoria and Vancouver areas are the only centres affected by the cancellation of lists.

## Tories Decide No Convention To Oust Chief

Executive Sessions End in  
Partial Victory for Mem-  
bers of Tolmie Cabinet

Honors were even at the end of a day of strenuous contention in the executive of the B. C. Conservative Association Saturday at the Hotel Vancouver.

Adherents of the Cabinet were successful in defeating by a margin of three votes the motion calling for an immediate convention of the party, the thinly-concealed object of which was to effect a change in the party leadership.

On the other hand the insurgent forces were successful in at least temporarily blocking the appointment of an organizer selected by the Cabinet.

Official statements implied that no conclusions had been reached. Comments of individual committee-men indicate, however, that this is an under-statement.

The decision not to hold a convention was an emphatic win for the hard pressed cabinet ministers. The vote on this motion was said to be 14 to 11.

### MACINTOSH REJECTED

The proposal to appoint Capt. MacGregor Macintosh, M.L.A., as chief organizer of the party, with an office in Victoria and two sub-organizers in other parts of the province, met with vigorous opposition from the insurgents. There was objection to this office being held by a member of the Legislature and there was also objection to the headquarters of the party being transferred to Victoria under the thumb of the Cabinet.

Resignation of Col. W. W. Foeter, as chairman of the organization committee, was accepted, but no appointment was made to succeed him. Lindley, Crease, K.C., president of the association, was instructed to take this matter in hand.

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## OFFER ACCESS TO NEW LISTS

B.C. Gov't Ready to Appoint  
Liberal Supervisors on  
Registration

Acting through Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, the Government extended yesterday an offer to British Columbia Liberals to name five men to act in connection with provincial voters lists in Victoria and Vancouver, to have full access to all arrangements for the coming registrations in the two cities. If accepted, the five nominees would be made supervisors, one in Victoria, and four in Vancouver, to act in conjunction with the supervisors already appointed in these areas.

Mr. Hinchliffe summarized the reasons for the cancellation of the lists in Victoria and Vancouver, and observed no objection could be taken in any quarter to genuine efforts to improve the lists, and accord as full representation to the electorate as possible.

### SIGNATURES OUTDATED

"It is of great importance to remember that the signature on the application form made by an applicant to be placed upon the voters' list is the final evidence that is relied upon to establish the identity of a voter when he claims his ballot at the polls," Mr. Hinchliffe said. "It is essential, therefore, that the signature on the original application should be available in perfect form as possible. Of original applications now in use, great many were made in 1920.

"At the present time it is found that a large proportion of the forms on which those applications were made are in a torn and dilapidated condition, as a result of constant usage during the last twelve years. It is difficult in many cases to decipher the signatures.

"The handwriting of individuals changes with the lapse of years, and the signatures of many individuals as made today are entirely different from the signatures as they appear on the applications made twelve years ago.

### MANY VOTERS MARRIED

"Since making their applications many women have married, and their present signature cannot be used to compare with the signatures on the original applications.

"If reports be true, there are a very large number of people who have not their names on the voters' lists, though they are entitled to be registered as voters. It is also possible that there are names on the voters' lists of persons who are not entitled to be so registered.

"Since 1912 many voters have changed their residence and occupation.

"Considering the whole situation and the necessity for improving the voters' lists in the various ways indicated, the Government came to the conclusion that the cheapest, most satisfactory and quickest method to adopt would be to cancel the old voters' lists entirely and make complete new lists, with signatures and addresses up to date, and with applications on forms that would be in good condition.

### CANCELED ALL LISTS

"In 1920 the Liberal Government came to the conclusion that it would be to the advantage of the province to have a revision of voters' lists, and it decided that the best way to secure more up-to-date voters' lists was to cancel the old ones. The Liberal Government, therefore canceled the lists throughout the whole of the province.

"This Government has come to the conclusion that at the present time, so far as Vancouver and Victoria are concerned, the most satisfactory way to obtain as complete voters' lists as possible, is to begin with a complete cancellation of the old lists in these two cities," Mr. Hinchliffe concluded.



**A P R**

**1932**

## Two-Year Hoist of Fixed General Tax Advanced in House

Municipal Act Changes Would Waive Twenty-Mill Limit During 1932 and 1933, Permitting Thirty-Five Mills for General Purposes

**R**ELIEF for British Columbia municipalities, puzzled by a fixed statutory limit of twenty mills on the dollar for general purposes, appeared on the legislative horizon yesterday with introduction of amendments to the Municipal Act which would waive for two years this arbitrary maximum, and permit of a levy up to thirty-five mills for general purposes.

Victoria City is among many centres that have been faced with a quandary by the original law. The variation would apply only during 1932 and 1933. In addition, the present limit of taxation on 50 per cent of improvements could be raised to 75 per cent under the proposed amendments.

The amending bill was introduced by Attorney-General Pooley, and received first reading without discussion. It has eighteen sections, two of which are of considerable importance to British Columbia municipal centres.

### COMMISSIONER CONTROL

In addition to the proposed waiving of the fixed rate on general purposes is a clause providing for the setting up of commissioner control in any centre that may temporarily be forced to suspend payment on its obligations. No actual suspension is feared, it is stated.

Subject to an order from the Supreme Court, the Province would appoint a commissioner with full authority to run the affairs of any centre until such time as stability was again reached.

General powers in the bill would give a conditional measure of discretion to the Provincial authorities to pass regulations deemed necessary for meeting any situation that might arise in this connection.

### PREPARATION OF BILL

The full purport of the bill has yet to be explained to the House, but its preparation is a result of recommendations made by the municipal committee after careful consultation with many city officials and with Robert Baird, inspector of municipalities.

Another clause in the bill would give municipalities power to regulate, license and, if necessary, padlock cabarets. Clarification of civic rights in dealing with hypothecated securities is aimed at in other sections of the measure. Assessment anomalies; collection of charges, other than taxes, when in arrears; and an important redefinition of the restricted powers of councils to grant fixed taxation up to a period of ten years, are included in a comprehensive measure, which will come up for second reading shortly.

## GASOLINE TAX PASSES HOUSE

New Petroleum Leases Attacked and Defended in Brief Debate

British Columbia's new gas tax was enacted yesterday, subject to Royal assent, in third reading of the bill to raise the tax by two cents, as provided in the budget of Hon. J. W. Jones. Third reading was given to amendments to the Vancouver Incorporation Act, and several other bills were advanced a stage. New amendments to the Municipal Act, to the Conditional Sales Act and to the Conditional Sales Act were introduced for first reading, the first named having an important bearing on civic tax rates and is explained elsewhere.

The House moved to print the report on state health insurance, at the suggestion of the printing committee, and held further debate on the Coal and Petroleum Act and other measures. A. M. Manson (Liberal, Okanagan) followed the lead of T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, on the day previous, and attacked amending regulations to petroleum and natural gas control as "monopolistic."

In defending the bill, Hon. N. S. Lougheed said its terms gave authority to the Province to grant leases on oil lands for development, under rigid and adequate safeguards, insuring a fair return to the people of the country on any discoveries made.

The House rose at 5:35 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. today. The unemployment committee is to hold its seventeenth meeting, starting at 10 a.m. today.

## B.C. Legislature Seeks Stabilization of Silver

By unanimous voice the Legislature yesterday passed a resolution offered by Capt. James Fitzsimmons (Cons., Kaslo-Slocan) and seconded by Colonel Fred Lister (Cons., Creston), urging discussion by the Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa in July of international steps to stabilize the price of silver. H. F. Kergin (Lib., Atlin) concurred in the proposal, which found the House unanimously in favor of some effort being made to restore silver values, of vital significance for the mining fields of Ontario and British Columbia.

Coinage of dollar denominations in Canada in place of paper cur-

rency would stimulate the market for silver, said Captain Fitzsimmons. British Columbia mines could not operate at present silver prices with any profit, but if the price returned to even 60 cents, mines would again get into production, with employment and new assets set free for the development of the country.

The motion passed without further discussion, after endorsement by Colonel Lister and Mr. Kergin.

It places the House on record as favoring discussion at the Economic Conference of the whole question of silver stabilization, together with any steps towards creation of international understanding on the subject.

## TERMINAL CITY SEEKS MILLION

Alderman Bennett Tells Unemployment Committee Like Sum Also Owed

Unemployment relief affairs in Vancouver were canvassed before the unemployment committee yesterday, with Alderman John Bennett and other city officials on the stand. Alderman Bennett said the city was asking authorization of a further \$1,000,000 at this time, to carry on relief work to about the middle of this summer.

Giving details of \$981,000 they said was owed to Vancouver on account of part direct relief and relief work under all heads, Vancouver officials said \$591,192 of this sum was due on Dominion account and \$294,999 on Provincial account. Alderman Bennett declared it was realized that the Province could not pay until arrangements had been made with Ottawa, but reminded the committee that Senator Robertson had approved of the Vancouver plans agreed on at his visit to the Coast last fall.

### TOOK SINGLE MEN

The understanding at that time had been that while Vancouver would not be permitted to go ahead with works valued at \$2,610,000 as they had suggested, that \$1,000,000 would be authorized, and the city could apply later, as required. Mr. Bennett praised the Provincial and Dominion Governments for taking single men out of Vancouver to the camps, and said this policy had been of great assistance to the city.

Relief costs in Vancouver are now running between \$70,000 and \$80,000 monthly, with a total of 30,000 people being cared for through city agencies, including 4,800 married men and their families, and 3,000 single men. The first \$1,000,000 was nearly expended, with 400 men still at work for a period that would expire in two weeks' time.

A maximum of 2,100 men had been employed at one time under the plan, the numbers varying from 1,400 to 2,100 for the past seven months.

Alderman Bennett suggested public and private co-operation to extend employment by going on a part-time basis of three weeks' work in the month for all normal occupations. He also advocated unemployment insurance, on a fully contributory basis between state, employer and employee.

### REFUTES STATEMENT

Straight from the shoulder denial of charges he said had been made by M. H. McGeough, Dominion relief official, was given by F. H. Harrison, chief accountant of the department of public works. Mr. Harrison stated that owing to a slip made by a junior clerk in the posting of a first entry in Provincial books, as to Dominion and Provincial credits for the return of the cost of food in camps when paid by the men, Mr. McGeough had accused him of deliberately trying to misapply the Dominion share of these refunds.

The charge was tantamount to one of crooked dealing and he had bitterly resented it, said Mr. Harrison. He had taken great pains to explain the system of posting the books to Mr. McGeough in this matter, and had showed that it would have taken collusion between five

officials, including the comptroller-general to do as Mr. McGeough had charged was being done.

From this and other brushes with Mr. McGeough, he had come to the conclusion that that official was hopelessly ignorant of accounting, or else was trying to obstruct the passage of vouchers under the national relief programme, Mr. Harrison declared.

Dispute had also arisen over the Dominion share of the cost of relief camps, the original agreement being that the Dominion would pay half, and this was confirmed by action of the Excise Department on sales taxes on food supplies. Mr. McGeough said he was not aware of this agreement, and refused to recognize it in dealing with vouchers for these costs.

### COUSIN RUMOR AGAIN

Edge-grained fir, rumored to have been ordered for tables in the camps at expensive costs, turned out to be an order for \$2.24 for a camp at Merritt. The committee got the facts through Mr. Harrison, after official investigation and refutation of the rumors, which had reached the committee through Opposition members.

The "cousin" rumor from A. D. Worgan, Penticton, which had also been raised before the Public Accounts committee, was again brought up, when it was shown to be without substance in any particular. The rumor had been that a "cousin" of Hon. W. A. McKenzie had received \$50 a day for rent of equipment to the Government, later bought by the Government. It transpired that the report was unfounded, and mere "idle gossip," said Mr. Harrison.

Mr. Harrison said, in conclusion, that as a civil servant he had carried out all of his duties without the slightest regard to politics, and would have done the same irrespective of whatever Government had been in power. He much resented the allegations made by Mr. McGeough, and had told him so on more than one occasion.

## PROGRESS MADE ON ESTIMATES

Vote in Labor and Other Departments Considered in Committee

Resuming after the supper recess, the Legislature went into committee of supply on Wednesday, on estimates in the Department of Labor and other votes. Material reduction was shown in all departmental votes compared with those of the previous fiscal year. Votes in the Labor Department, with the 1931 figures in parenthesis following, were as follows:

Total appropriation this year, \$454,572 (\$699,502), a reduction by \$244,930. This was made up as follows: General office, \$14,988 (\$17,404); Minimum Wage Board, \$5,099 (\$5,322); employment service offices, \$34,745 (not shown); factories inspection, \$7,108 (\$7,788); old age pensions, administration and net percentage of pensions, \$392,630 (\$627,500).

### DOMINION AID EXTENDED

In connection with old age pensions, it was explained the Dominion will contribute \$1,129,890 by way of refunds under the new agreement promulgated last year.

### DEPARTMENT OF MINES

Estimates in the Department of Mines this year are shown as \$177,951, a reduction of \$101,650 from \$279,601 asked last year. The chief votes, with last year's figures in parenthesis, are as follows:

Minister's office, \$12,309 (\$13,325); general office, \$17,749 (\$21,376); mines branch, \$33,543 (\$41,210); bureau of mines, \$16,182 (\$18,440); mine rescue and training stations, \$10,048 (\$13,750); grants, \$2,000 (\$7,500); grants to mining roads and trails, \$50,000 (\$100,000); Mineral Survey and Development Act, \$28,919 (\$45,000); and other votes, totaling in all \$177,951 (\$279,601).



## NEARLY MILLION CUT IN VOTES

Huge Reduction Shown in  
Educational Estimates  
This Year

Estimates in the Department of Education, showing a reduction of \$891,098 below appropriations of last year, were considered by the Legislature yesterday, sitting in committee on supply. The total vote asked is \$3,846,012, compared to \$4,737,110 for 1931-32. The estimates include salary grants to civic and rural schools totaling \$2,196,526, of which cities and municipalities are to receive \$1,486,526 and rural school districts \$713,000.

Nine-tenths of the educational votes were ratified before the committee rose to report progress for the day. The University grant was not reached, but grants to municipalities, operations of the textbook branch, and the problem of teenage boys and girls finished school but without employment, came in for considerable discussion.

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe explained items in the estimates, and received commendation which was not confined to Government benches.

### PROBLEM RAISED

Serious problems have been raised by large numbers of boys and girls, of the age of seventeen years and upwards, who are through their schooling but who cannot find employment in these times, the House was told. The Leader of the Opposition suggested that they be permitted to continue at school rather than go idle. J. A. Loutet (Conservative, North Vancouver) proposed that activities such as the Summer camps of the Canadian Forestry Association be devised to employ their time.

Reginald Hayward (Conservative, Victoria) pointed to the serious drain on public funds of the continuance at school of pupils over the age at which provision must be maintained for their tuition. More than eight hundred such were registered at one high school in the province, he said. To his mind, school boards had not taken sufficient advantage of their existing remedies to charge a part of the cost of the maintenance of such pupils on the parents concerned, the majority of whom were well able to pay, he asserted. He cited the case of a girl who had remained in Victoria High School for nine years, in a successful but belated effort to win the Governor-General's Medal, and which he asserted had actually occurred some years ago.

### ORGY OF SPENDING

A. M. Manson (Liberal, Omineca) said he was concerned with the growing of juvenile misdemeanors, stating continuance at school to be preferable at any cost to the spread of wild conduct or lawlessness.

Col. Nelson Spencer (Conservative, Vancouver) halted the discussion. Nobody questioned the advantages of higher education, but its cost had become burdensome after a world orgy of overspending in the last decade, he said.

Mr. Hinchliffe explained the operation of the textbook branch, and said the present system had made price profiteering in school books impossible. This year it is proposed to finance book purchases by \$150,000 from consolidated revenue, to be returned when the books are sold to dealers or parents. In addition, \$57,200 is set aside for the provision of free readers in the schools, though books so granted will be expected to last longer, by being reused in the same families or else reclaimed at half their value.

### STATES CIRCUMSTANCES

Circumstances leading to the dismissal of J. A. Anderson, formerly in charge of the textbook branch, were outlined to the House by Mr. Hinchliffe, at the request of L. A. Hanna (Liberal, Alberni). Mr. Hinchliffe said this course had followed several warnings and had been for valid cause. The official had later been re-engaged in another capacity.

P. M. Barr was placed in charge of the textbook branch as successor to Mr. Anderson. Salary set for the position this year was challenged on the ground that it exceeded that of the provincial librarian.

### OTHER ESTIMATES

Other items in the estimates considered, with the corresponding figures for last year in parenthesis,

were as follows: Minister's office, \$10,470 (\$12,420); general office, \$29,419 (\$31,256); high school correspondence courses, \$23,414 (\$21,465); elementary correspondence courses, \$8,101 (\$7,284); industrial education, \$41,073 (\$67,170); inspection of schools, \$97,596 (\$103,175); Vancouver Normal School, \$31,396 (\$35,330); Victoria Normal School, \$24,058 (\$29,206); schools for deaf and blind, \$30,115 (\$30,534); new buildings and repairs, \$50,000 (\$117,000); transportation of pupils to school, \$85,000 (\$85,000); allowances to soldiers' dependent children, \$12,000 (\$15,000); examination of teachers, \$10,000, and an item of \$223,200 for teachers' salaries in assisted schools, for a three-month period.

The University grant, to come up later, is shown as \$250,000, made up of \$241,100 in general grant and \$8,900 for the teachers' training course. This compares with \$462,700 in the aggregate last year. The total votes for the department are shown as \$3,196,012, down nearly \$1,000,000 from the figure of \$4,117,110 in the year previous.

## CITY TAXATION BILL ADVANCED

Legislature Told Municipal  
Act Changes Unanimous  
Will of Committee

Proposed changes in the Municipal Act, granting wider powers of taxation to municipalities in emergency times and on a limited basis were unopposed in the Legislature yesterday, when the bill was given second reading.

Attorney-General Pooley explained the bill would waive for two years the limit of 20 mills for general purposes, extending this to a limit of 35 mills during 1932 and 1933. Municipalities would be given power to levy on a maximum of 75 per cent of improvement values in place of 50 per cent as at present.

Provisional legislation providing machinery for provincial commission control, if deemed necessary, is also included in the bill. The recommendations had been made by the municipal committee of the Legislature, whose viewpoints were well taken, Mr. Pooley concluded.

### CONVEYS WIDE POWERS

The Leader of the Opposition said that if the Government would accept full responsibility for the measure, he would not oppose the bill. He would remark, however, that it conveyed wide powers in taxation matters to the municipalities.

Reginald Hayward (Cons., Victoria) explained the municipal committee had considered the measure carefully with Robert Baird, Inspector of municipalities, and had been unanimous in its approval. This was endorsed by Mayor A. W. Gray (Lib., New Westminster). Second reading followed, and a further stage would have been accorded but for the rules of the House.

## Liquor Control Board Changes Are Intimated

Plebiscites in Repeal of Beer Sale, Reduced Personnel on Commission and Stricter Surveillance of Clubs Involved in New Legislation  
—Present Board Effects Savings

LEGISLATIVE provision for a one, two or three-man liquor board, at the discretion of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, and provision for plebiscites in wet districts on the question of abandoning sale of beer by the glass, were spoken to in the Legislature yesterday by Attorney-General Pooley, on second reading of changes in the Government Liquor Act.

Mr. Pooley paid a tribute to the present personnel of the board, which had effected savings at the rate of \$350,000 yearly. Curtailment of "breakages" from a high rate as under former boards had saved \$300 a month; pooling of rail shipments to distribution points was saving \$17,000 a year; insurance on stock in vendors' store had been replaced in a board company at a saving of \$5,000 yearly; and \$300,000 a year was gained through reduction in the price paid by the board for beer.

### MAY REDUCE BOARD

Mr. Pooley declined to anticipate the Government's plans for remodeling the liquor board, but indicated that power was being taken to provide a board of not more than three members, or of any number up to three desired.

The main work of reorganizing the service had been ably carried out, and economies could be effected now that were not advisable earlier. The present board had given excellent results, and effected a great improvement in the whole administration of liquor affairs in the province, the Attorney-General declared.

Provision was being made in the present bill to withhold licence from any private club or veterans' organization which had not been at least three years in operation previously. Advertisement of changes in location of beer clubs would also be provided, to meet the case when mushroom clubs could spring up in residential areas and move at will. The three-year operation clause and necessity of advertising changes in address would impose needed control in these matters, he said.

### AMEND POWERS

The bill also provided for taking of plebiscites in wet districts, on the repeal of sale of beer by the glass, to meet the case which had arisen in Esquimalt last year. The new clause provides for action to repeal beer privileges in areas where 55 per cent of the actual votes cast favors such repeal.

A. M. Manson (Liberal, Omineca) entered a general attack on the policies of the Government in regard to liquor administration; criticized the cost of the new board; and asserted operating costs had risen under its management. He saw no necessity for the clauses dealing with the reversal of wet votes, as this power was already contained in general provisions of the act. The board had raised prices on liquor, and a further 5 per cent increase was now to be added by way of sales tax. A profit of 235 per cent had been made on one line, he declared.

Mr. Pooley—Don't forget the decrease in the price of beer.

Mr. Manson said he saw nothing wonderful in that, the point might be that it should be still further reduced.

Frequent clashes between the Attorneys-General past and present followed in a heated debate, in which Mr. Speaker called for order and reprimanded Mr. Manson for language he said was unparliamentary. Second reading followed with-

## B.C. LOAN BILL IS INTRODUCED

Amendments to Jury Act Affecting Grand Juries Before Legislature

Five message bills were introduced in the Legislature yesterday, including the 1932 Loan Act, under which authority would be granted to borrow \$7,500,000 for unemployment relief, capital construction on highways and bridges, and the conservation fund. Up to \$7,000,000 of the amount would be authorized for unemployment relief purposes, as already outlined in the budget of Hon. J. W. Jones.

The bill discloses provision up to \$400,000 for expenditures on capital account for highway construction and improvement, and bridges; and \$100,000 for conservation fund under the Water Act, exclusive of sums now provided for the fund under other statutory provision.

Six per cent would be the maximum interest permissible for any loans contracted under the measure.

### GRAND JURIES AFFECTED

Amendments to the Jury Act, anticipating Federal action to eliminate grand juries in British Columbia, and providing for consequent changes in the existing act to give effect to that course, were introduced by Attorney-General Pooley, without discussion. The act would come into effect on Royal proclamation. The Federal measure, sought at the request of the Province, has already passed Upper and Lower Houses, and awaits royal assent, it is understood.

With those sections to which exception had been taken redrafted, and offending clauses otherwise removed, the second Chiropractors' Bill made its appearance, through Reginald Hayward (Cons., Victoria). The main purport of the bill is the same as in the original measure.

### BARBERS' ACT

Amendments to the Barbers Act, proposed by Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C.; and a redivision of Dominion and Provincial control over fruit and other noxious pests in a bill presented by Hon. William Atkinson, were also introduced.

All five bills were given first reading, without discussion. Amendments to the Jury Act, and the new loan bill will be challenged on debate.

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# Reid Charges Are Aired Before B.C. House Committee

General Superintendent of Camp Construction Denies Allegations of Waste in Regard to Relief Camps—Deroche Matters Outlined

REPLY to the charges made by Thomas Reid, M.P., before the House of Commons as to the operation of unemployment relief camps in British Columbia was made before the unemployment committee of the Legislature yesterday by the general superintendent of camp construction, Major R. M. Taylor. Major Taylor said he thought confusion had arisen in the minds of the public through the fact that large stores of tools and equipment were assembled at warehouse camps for distribution throughout more than 200 work camps, and no account had been taken of the fact that these were distributing centres and not work camps in themselves.

Reading from Hansard, the written record of the House of Commons, General J. A. Clark, counsel to the committee, cited the allegations reported as made by the Federal Member for New Westminster and by other members before Parliament. These included the assertion that one manufacturer had sold 50,000 blankets to the Provincial Government, "taking him out of the red"; that there had been a pick, shovel, barrow and crosscut saw for almost every man; hot and cold water showers on a luxurious basis, and many other allegations.

## WAREHOUSE CAMPS

Major Taylor explained that about eight warehouse camps had been opened for the assembly of tools and equipment for actual use on works distributed over a wide area. In these distributing camps there had been hundreds of barrows, shovels and saws, but not for the use of the staff engaged in these camps, but for redistribution as the work required.

The province operated a total of 237 camps, some permanent and others temporary, with approximately 25,000 men enrolled at one time, witness said he had been advised. The cost of construction and outfitting at \$38 per man, compared favorably with construction camps erected by the General Construction Company, of which he had been superintendent, after ten years' connection with the Public Works Department as assistant engineer. The General Construction Company camps had cost \$46.16 per man, being similar to the British Columbia camps, save that steam heating had been added in the company camps at a cost of \$2,000 per installation.

## SAW LITTLE WASTE

Showers in the British Columbia camps had been plain affairs, necessary for sanitation and costing \$7 each, or \$30 for 100-man camp. Shovels, picks and barrows had been used as required, but there had not been one for every man, or anything like it. Crosscut saws had been used, at the rate of one to every seventeen men, and had been necessary to the work.

Generally speaking, in his capacity as superintendent of construction on the relief camps, he had seen little waste, other than was unavoidable with the operation of 237 units of construction, which rested to some extent of the ability of foremen and human agencies for their successful operation.

In regard to the blanket rumor, Mr. Taylor stated the only record he had of blankets was the purchase of 800 pairs of second-hand blankets, and 7,700 pairs of new blankets, needed in the camps. Wages paid to key men were much below that paid in private undertakings, including his own salary, which had been \$150 per month less than he had elsewhere received.

Dealing with Sunnyside camp, where a piping system had been installed and difficulty found in getting water, Major Taylor said that a well had been sunk at a cost of \$75, but without immediate result.

A second well had been sunk several hundred feet away, but owing to dry conditions water could not immediately be obtained. Later in the year the first well had filled, and been placed in use. To his knowledge this had been the only case where trouble of the sort had been experienced.

The camps, on the whole, had been well built, at a cost reasonable in regard to all the circumstances, he concluded.

## CARPENTERS DETAILED

Sidney H. West, camp accountant for the seven Deroche relief work camps, told of the visit of M. H. McGeough, Dominion relief official, to five of the camps in his presence on October 16. Carpenters on the payroll for the five camps at that date had numbered forty-seven, dropping by ten the next day. For all seven camps, fifty-three carpenters had been on the payroll on October 16, and sixty-three on the day following. Five of the seven camps had been still under construction at the time of Mr. McGeough's visit, and two had been already completed.

During the month of October, at no time had more than seventy-nine carpenters been carried at the Deroche camps, and this number had occurred only at the start of that month, when construction was under way at all seven camps. Witness stressed the fact that skilled artisans were listed only once on the payroll, but their names would appear on time sheets at several camps, as they were moved about during construction. This, he indicated, might have accounted for the erroneous impression that 104 men had been in receipt of carpenters' pay as at October 16 or 17.

Witness testified the Deroche camps had accommodated some 700 men, when in operation after their construction, and these had been superintended by a general staff of some ten officials. All other than the few key men concerned were registered unemployed, who had pleaded destitution, on registration. Carpenters and blacksmiths were paid \$4 daily, and nonskilled ratings \$2. A general camp superintendent was paid \$6 a day.

## CASTING BALLOT

The committee at this stage ran into one of the many tiffs between Government and Opposition members which has characterized much of its labors for the eighteen sittings held to date.

The storm arose through a demand from A. M. Manson, M.P.P., that Mr. McGeough be recalled and questioned as to evidence he had given, and which he said had since been contradicted by witnesses before the inquiry.

R. W. Alward, M.P.P., observed Mr. McGeough had been two days on the stand, and had ample opportunity to state his side of the case fully. The committee divided 4-4 on the issue, H. D. Twigg, M.P.P., the chairman, casting the deciding ballot, declining rebuttal to Mr. McGeough.

After further evidence, the committee rose until 10 a.m. Monday. Harold Brown, president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, submitted a written brief to the group, setting out his views on unemployment matters, asked for by the committee. The brief was added to the data before the committee.

# DEVELOPMENT IS PREDICTED

Lifting of Oil and Gas Reserves Will Mean Much to British Columbia

Proposed regulation of petroleum and natural gas assets in British Columbia, paving the way of a lifting of reserves imposed on prospecting and development in rich oil-bearing territories in the Peace River and northern parts of the province, received second reading in the Legislature yesterday, after debate. The Government measure was supported 34-10 on division, on straight party lines.

R. W. Alward (Cons., Fort George), spoke warmly in favor of the bill, which he said would permit the development of oil lands long held idle through Crown reserves.

## FORESEES DEVELOPMENT

"I am firmly convinced we have in the Peace River oil resources sufficient not only for our own needs, but enough to supply other countries as well. Passage of this measure will open the way to prospecting and active development of a form of wealth that has long lain dormant with us in British Columbia. The matter is one of vital interest to the Peace River, and will undoubtedly open the way to development, and maybe hasten the return of prosperity," Dr. Alward contributed in the debate.

Ample safeguards were contained in the bill, whereby half of all lands in areas proposed to be leased would be set aside for the Crown, and a royalty of 12 1-2 per cent charged on production. Provisions were also made for genuine development, and continuous operation, where warranted, Dr. Alward added.

## URGES STATE CONTROL

L. A. Hanna (Lib., Alberni), joined other speakers on the Opposition benches who had opposed the measure. He urged that the Government consider undertaking development of any promising oil or natural gas resources itself, as a potential means of reducing the public debt in times when other assets were moribund.

The bill, he said, made too little provision for the rights of the small operators and prospectors, and too much for rich corporations that could secure unfair advantages in using the law to their own ends. No provision was made for price control, a point, he urged, that should be seriously considered in the light of high gasoline prices in British Columbia, to the detriment of the fishing and other industries.

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe pointed out that the bill provided for continuous operation, once development was started in any field that warranted production on commercial lines. Second reading followed, on division.

# GAME LICENCES ARE REVIEWED

Administration of Game Branch Is Self-Supporting, Legislature Learns

Amendments to the Game Act, which provide for \$1 angling licence on males over eighteen, and some upward revision of game licences for residents and tourists, received second reading in the Legislature yesterday, piloted by Attorney-General Pooley.

Mr. Pooley took exception to statements made by Opposition members to the effect that game administration was costing between \$150,000 and \$200,000 more under the present system than it had under the control of the provincial police. Game administration in 1927-28, he stated, had cost \$220,411, which was within \$13,000 of the cost of the service last year, at \$233,945.

Of the present staff of sixty-eight, sixty-three were game wardens, of whom thirty were returned soldiers. Of the total staff, forty-nine had been transferred to the game branch from the provincial police, and all game wardens were called on to do police duty at times. The service was supported out of fees collected, and had proved a valuable adjunct to the police on many occasions.

## CITES FIRST BUDGET

A. M. Manson (Liberal, Omineca) cited the first budget of Hon. J. W. Jones as to the cost of the service over a period of years. The cost of game protection shown by Mr. Jones for the year 1927-28 had been \$73,380, but had been followed by a sharp increase under the present regime, he contended. Mr. Pooley said the figures could not have been inclusive of the whole cost for the year 1927-28, but deferred further reference until the vote comes up in committee of supply.

Terms in the bill would increase the resident bird licence from \$2.50 to \$3.50; the bird and bear licence from \$5 to \$6; and the nonresident licence from \$10 to \$12; as well as making provision for the collection of the angling licence, to be devoted to game fish conservation on a comprehensive plan to restock British Columbia fresh water bodies through use of rearing ponds.

## Bridge Was Inspected

Washed out by a large body of water, which started in the hills and swept down with great force to remove its understructure, the bridge on the Pacific Great Eastern Railway responsible for the train wreck of this week, had been examined and passed inspection three days before the accident, and had been patrolled a few hours before the actual damage, Premier Tolmie reported in the Legislature last evening. The House rose at 11 p.m. until 3 p.m. on Monday.



# Revenue From Roads Shows Big Increase Says N.S. Lougheed

Defends Purchases of Machinery During Term as Minister of Public Works—Departmental Estimates Before Committee

REVENUE totaling \$4,500,000 was produced by British Columbia highways in 1930, compared with \$582,000 in 1920, it was revealed by Hon. N. S. Lougheed during discussion of estimates in the Department of Public Works last night. This sum, he said, did not take into account other gains from traffic increases during the ten-year period.

Mr. Lougheed was replying to an attack by A. M. Manson (Liberal, Omineca), who said a "dream" programme had been conceived but the funds had run out before it could be carried into execution. Mr. Manson charged waste and political bias in connection with unemployed relief.

## EXPLAINS EXPENDITURES

Defending the road machinery purchases while he was Minister of Public Works, Mr. Lougheed stated that \$1,615,700 had been spent from the equipment fund before he took office. This included \$262,000 in 1927 and \$393,000 in 1928.

In 1929, the first year of his office, the sum of \$736,000 had been spent on equipment and \$726,000 in the following year, a total of \$1,690,000 under his control. The machinery had been necessary and all of it was in use at this date, he said, while a material saving in the cost of road building had been effected by its use. In 1920 British Columbia roads were valued at \$42,000,000 and in 1930 at \$69,000,000, he declared. In the same period the revenue had increased from \$582,000 to \$4,500,000.

## OPPOSITION UNFAIR

The Opposition had been unfair in its reference to increase in the Department of Public Works costs from \$6,700,000 to \$13,000,000, leaving the inference this was for road work alone, he continued. The facts were that nearly \$4,000,000 of the sum had been spent for needed accommodation at Essondale, approximately \$2,000,000 for schools, \$2,500,000 for bridges and other works, and \$500,000 for ferries.

The sum of \$4,900,000 had been spent on roads in 1929, and \$4,257,000 in 1930. Every dollar expended had been for value, Mr. Lougheed concluded.

Hon. R. W. Bruhn explains items in the appropriations asked for the Department of Public Works and the reason for the votes. Total expenditures in the department for this year are listed as \$2,507,235, a reduction by \$815,815 from \$3,323,050 last year.

## REDUCTIONS MADE

With their contrasting items for the previous year in brackets, the figures as presented are as follows: Minister's office, \$12,403 (\$12,360); administration, including all offices, \$166,118 (\$310,794); maintenance of Parliament Buildings, services and grounds, \$122,205 (\$151,330); Government House, maintenance, \$22,975 (\$27,610); roads, bridges, ferries and wharfs, etc., less receipts, \$1,956,000 (\$2,495,000); maintenance and repairs to public buildings, \$189,523 (\$209,839); steam boiler inspection, \$2,763 (\$3,070); electrical inspection, \$13,747 (\$11,947); unemployment relief, nil (\$100,000); and other items, making a total of \$2,507,235 (\$3,323,050).

## HIGHWAY COMMISSION

G. A. Walkem (Conservative, Vancouver) proposed creation of a Provincial highway commission. Mr. Bruhn said this proposal had been advanced before and every consideration was being given to the suggestion.

Capt. James Fitzsimmons (Conservative, Kaslo-Slocan) was applauded for his suggestion that the members on both sides eliminate politics and get down to devising remedies for aiding the unemployed.

## BUS REGULATIONS

Mr. Bruhn explained at another point that British Columbia regulations in regard to bus operation were under close advisement, but changes would await the report of the national board investigating transportation.

Estimates in the Fisheries Department followed, the total vote being \$20,286, as against \$36,460 last year. General discussion was offered on fisheries and the problem facing British Columbia fishing interests today.

# LIBERAL MEMBER IS PINNED DOWN

Only Half the Facts Disclosed to House, Hon. E. H. Pooley Asserts

Attorney-General Pooley taxed A. M. Manson, M.P.P., former Attorney-General, with conveying a half-truth to the Legislature on Friday, in debate over the cost of game administration in British Columbia.

Making the point that game administration, including bounties, last year had been on a self-supporting basis, at practically the same cost as in 1927-28, Mr. Pooley had given the cost for 1927-28 as \$220,410. There had been an annual increase of about \$13,000 since, he stated.

Mr. Manson, quoting from the Jones budget of 1930-31, said there had been a tremendous increase in game administration costs, and read the figure \$73,380 as that detailed by Hon. J. W. Jones as the cost of "game protection" in 1927-28.

## MAKES REPLY

Replying at the evening sitting, Mr. Pooley showed from the public accounts prepared at the time when Mr. Manson had been Attorney-General, in charge of the game branch, that while it was true that \$73,380 had been the cost of "game protection," Mr. Manson had omitted to say that in the same year \$147,030 additional had been spent on "game law enforcement." This, he said, made a total of \$220,410, which was what he had previously told the House.

Mr. Manson, who had sought to prevent Mr. Pooley from reopening the matter in the evening sitting, remarked that he could not be expected to carry all the figures in his head.

## A LAW UNTO THEMSELVES

"An Act Respecting Chiropractors," reintroduced in the Legislature in a slightly amended form so as to make it come within the provisions of what a private member's bill should contain, is still an entirely unsatisfactory piece of proposed legislation. It contains a number of provisions that are of a character which might not inure to general health conditions in the province, a matter which should be of prime importance to the Legislature. It sets up new legislation affecting the treatment of disease, and would give legal status to those whose knowledge, even as confined to the health theories they espouse, is necessarily circumscribed and experimental on the basis of the training they have received.

There is an anomaly proposed in the legislation connoted by an Act Respecting Chiropractors. It provides that out of the existing practitioners in the province a board should be created, and that such a body should be an examining board to determine the right of future practitioners to have their standing legalized. In other words, that board is to hold an examination, and the irony of the situation proposed is that the examination is to be in subjects many of which have not been taken in any course by the examiners themselves. The bill specifically states that a chiropractor shall be entitled to registration and to practise in the province, provided he passes an examination "satisfactory to the examining board" on the following subjects: "anatomy, physiology, chemistry, bacteriology, pathology, histology, neurology, gynecology, sanitation and hygiene, general diagnosis, including symptomatology, and the principles and practice of the methods of chiropractic treatment."

There are six schools of chiropractic which are recognized as entitled to give diplomas, the recipients of which could practise in British Columbia under the terms of the new legislation. Presumably the Legislature will be informed to what extent those schools give adequate courses in the medical subjects outlined in the foregoing paragraph and regarded as a part of educational equipment as defined in the bill. For medical men the course prescribed is severe and exacting. It embraces wide branches of knowledge affecting all ills to which the body is liable to be subject. In the case of chiropractors there is an effort in the bill to define knowledge on a similar scale, but its acquisition is apparently to be compressed into half, or less than half, the time occupied in its absorption by a medical student. As a consequence that knowledge cannot be absorbed to the same extent either in theory or in practice.

The flagrant provision in the bill is that a board of chiropractors, who have not taken many of the courses prescribed, is to be set up as an examining board for those who in the future want to practise in British Columbia. The situation that would be created is an absurd one. There is no guarantee that such examinations as are proposed would not be glozed over and regarded as perfunctory by the existing practitioners who do not believe that the knowledge as prescribed in the legislation is necessary at all to the practice of their profession. This is one angle of the legislation that it is the duty of the Legislature to examine with every possible attention.

There would be a very dangerous precedent created, and one that might well prove injurious to the health of the province, if those who have not the knowledge themselves are allowed to pass upon the requirements, as defined by statute, of future practitioners in the art of chiropractic. The clause of the bill dealing with examination is indefiniteness itself. The character of the course in various medical subjects is not defined at all. It is a matter left in the hands of the chiropractors themselves and they

do not believe that much of the knowledge in which they are supposed to examine applicants for registration is necessary. The legislation, therefore, in this respect, is of an anomalous order. What it does, in effect, is to make the chiropractors a law unto themselves, with all the dangers which the treatment, still much in its experimental stages, involves.

# A. W. N. DRAWS

Hon. S. L. tails of W Up to

Dispute between fishermen and caribou was revived on Friday, when accused A. W. N. drew for Comoxing trouble between the operator and the operator, who was denied by L. A. (Berni), whose refusal to work in a member.

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## A. W. NEILL, M.P. DRAWS CENSURE

Hon. S. L. Howe Gives Details of West Coast Tie-Up to Legislature

Dispute between West Coast fishermen and cannery operators last year was revived in the Legislature on Friday, when Hon. S. L. Howe accused A. W. Neill, Federal member for Comox-Alberni, with fomenting trouble between the fishermen and the operators. This was hotly denied by L. A. Hanna (Liberal, Alberni), whose name had been associated in a negative capacity by Mr. Howe with that of the Federal member.

The issue arose during the passage of estimates in the Department of Fisheries, after general criticism had been voiced by Mr. Hanna on the policy followed by the provincial fishery authorities, who, he charged, had favored the cannery operators.

Mr. Howe retorted that Mr. Hanna and Mr. Neill had attended a public meeting of fishermen called at Alberni during the "strike," at which meeting, he said, Mr. Neill had urged the men to stand fast in their refusal to fish, and to go on unemployment relief rather than return to work. Mr. Hanna had been present at the meeting, but had made no effort to advise the men differently, stated Mr. Howe.

Mr. Hanna was on his feet in an instant. Neither Mr. Neill nor himself had advised the fishermen to remain idle, or to go on relief, he asserted. There had been no "strike," but a "walk-out," he continued.

### RETURNED TO WORK

Mr. Howe resumed. After the Alberni meeting with Mr. Neill and Mr. Hanna, the fishermen had gone quietly off to a meeting of their own, where they had voted to return to work, he said. Action by the provincial authorities at that time had resulted in the resumption of fishing, he said.

Mr. Hanna retorted that the Government had waived the \$50 licence

on seine boats, but had told the operators first, these in turn letting the fishermen believe that through their generosity they would be willing to pay six cents instead of five cents for the fish caught. The member for Alberni closed with the assertion that Mr. Neill could defeat Mr. Howe in any riding, at any time, a challenge that was thrown back in kind.

Premier Tolmie closed the debate on a less contentious note. Action was now being taken by the Province to secure the aid of the Dominion in raising the standard of quality for all canned fish exported from Canada. Markets abroad depended on assurance of quality and continuance of supply, and there was every prospect of better times for the fishing industry, as these measures were brought about, he said.

Mr. Howe added his assurance that no stone would be left unturned to do all within the power of the Province in aid of the fishermen. Under Federal law only the actual plants came under the control of the Province, all matters relating to fishing itself being under Federal control.

**Railway Estimates** — Appropriations in the Department of Railways were passed by the Legislature late on Friday evening, at \$91,055, an increase from \$76,918 in the year previous. Premier Tolmie explained the increase as due to costs in connection with New Westminster Bridge, on which \$25,000 is set aside for replacement of trestles this year, and for other work.

### PER CAPITA COST OF EDUCATION

School costs, including debt charges for school loans, have risen in Victoria from \$540,318 in 1923 to approximately \$593,000 in 1932. The average enrollment of pupils was 5,927 in 1923 and 6,034 in 1931. In 1923 the cost per pupil was \$91.16; in 1931, \$104.94. It is the increase in the latter cost that seems to require some explanation from the Board of School Trustees. The figures quoted include not only the moneys voted by this municipality for educational purposes, but those also received from the Provincial Government on behalf of teachers' salaries. All the money is provided by the taxpayers. In School Board bookkeeping the Provincial Government's quota is deducted from the cost per pupil, and the net cost per capita is given on the basis of municipal expenditures. That net cost is shown as \$67.86 per pupil in 1923 and \$77.08 in 1931. There is possibly a small decrease in the per capita cost as between 1931 and 1932, as last year there was a reduction in School Board expenditure of \$40,000.

The point is that, with some slight fluctuations, the per capita cost of education in the public schools has been increasing through the years. In days when economies are the watchword of the hour, it is well to examine the causes which have led to this increase, and these could only be explained satisfactorily by the School Board. The likelihood is that some of the increase in expenditure has been due to so-called "frills" that have been added to the school courses. The benefits derived from such "frills" have always been a moot point, and it must be remembered that in some cases the introduction of "frills" has meant the purchase of costly equipment. It does not seem reasonable that within a space of eight years the cost per pupil in the public schools should have increased by approximately \$13. It is a matter, in any case, which deserves the searchlight of publicity in times like these when civic administration is straining all efforts to effect a balanced budget.

### B.C. Legislature May Complete Its Labors This Week

FROM plans believed to be generally shared on both sides of the House, the British Columbia Legislature is expected to complete its business this week and prorogue. Important legislation will be cleaned up early in the week and an effort made to reach conclusion in time for final adjournment before Saturday. Conclusion of taxation measures, redistribution and probable introduction of moratorium proposals are expected to arise within the next few days. Victoria, it is expected, will retain its four seats in the House, while slight reduction in the total membership is planned.

### CHIROPRACTIC

Only those with full training of the requisite character and the ability to assimilate knowledge can estimate aright the claims made by chiropractors to practise their profession. There are certain features of those claims, however, which strike the lay mind as possessed of dangerous reactions in the treatment of disease as a whole, and of the possibility of their not being consonant with health welfare. In the first place it is possible to be a chiropractor with a very limited primary and secondary education in matters affecting health. They ask to be entrusted with the treatment of the sick on the basis of a theory to which they submit all disease. Their claim is that disease is the result of a misplaced vertebra, "which impinges on the nerve passing through the intervertebral foramen," which results in the disease, whatever it may be. The cure they practise is to reduce the so-called subluxation, leaving nature to do the rest. It is a specious claim, especially when added to it is the assertion that infectious disease will not occur in those whose spines are properly aligned.

Apparently, in the opinion of the chiropractor, knowledge of the spine, and but little else, is required for ministering to the ills to which flesh is heir. During an inquiry in this province, in which some qualifications of chiropractors were briefly touched upon, one of those practitioners giving evidence, claimed to have got into the third reader twice. Obviously educational requirements, and especially those covering the whole range of medical knowledge, are unnecessary in the case of a chiropractor, in his own estimation. As opposed to this viewpoint the medical profession takes its stand on the essentiality of those allowed to treat the sick being possessed of fundamental knowledge of the human body and the ability to recognize disease. If this essentiality is acquiesced in by the Legislature, in the duty it has to perform in safeguarding public health, then it would be impossible to grant legal status to chiropractors without changing and substantially adding to the range of knowledge they are supposed to possess, and insuring their examination by competent and skilled advisers.

It is very unfortunate that the Commission

of Mr. Justice Murphy should have been so circumscribed in its scope. The public had every right to expect that such a Commission would have been permitted to go into every aspect of the question. As it happens, however, Mr. Justice Murphy was stopped from ascertaining whether the qualifications chiropractors possess render them safe in the public interests. He made this clear himself in his report in saying: "Questions of the efficacy of chiropractic, or of its relative merit as compared with medicine, were not open to be considered. In particular, no inquiry was to be made as to the adequacy, or otherwise, from the standpoint of protection of the public, of the accepted chiropractic method of treating human ailments."

It is obvious from the foregoing that the Legislature is to be the judge of matters which the Government would not permit Mr. Justice Murphy to investigate. The conditions imposed on him were emphasized again by the commissioner in another part of his report when he said: "Once more, to guard against misapprehension, your Commissioner repeats that the terms of the Commission preclude him from making any investigation as to whether or not the chiropractic standard in reference to the proposed subjects for examination, does adequately protect the public." These are some aspects of "An Act Respecting Chiropractors" which cannot but give rise to grave doubts about the desirability of giving the profession of chiropractic legal recognition, unless under far more rigid safeguards than any proposed in the present legislation.



# Offers Scheme to House Committee On Unemployment

Hon. R. W. Bruhn Urges Change in Relief Organization for Coming Year—Says Cities Must Be Helped—M. H. McGeough Called to Ottawa

CONCERTED action to stop the westward flow of idle transients in Canada; segregation of boys under twenty for separate care, perhaps with special schooling; and continuation for the present of public works on highways to take care of married men in unorganized territories, and single men and transients from the cities, were recommended as suggestions before the legislative committee on unemployment yesterday by Hon. R. W. Bruhn.

Mr. Bruhn also proposed group prospecting and placer gold panning for the unemployed, under guidance of engineering experts; and a limited policy of land settlement for those who wished to go on the land with some state aid for the purpose of maintaining themselves. He stressed the fact that municipalities would require materially more aid this year with unemployment relief.

## MANY TRANSIENTS

Speaking to the proposal that Dominion action be taken to stop influx of transients into British Columbia, Mr. Bruhn testified that the province has 30,311 single men on its books, with 11,700 transients additional, or a total of some 42,000 men. This compared with 5,000 single men registered in Alberta and 5,000 in Saskatchewan. He pointed to the extra burden that had to be assumed in the Coast province.

Recognition of this fact had been met by Ottawa in agreeing to join with the province to take half of the cost involved in the caring for single men and transients, which had been done to the greatest extent possible last year, he continued. In the neighborhood of 9,000 men had been taken out of Vancouver under these arrangements, and others elsewhere. His suggestions were advanced personally, and not as a member of the Government, he explained.

## AGREEMENT ON POLICY

Before starting on the programme of highway construction, the province had conferred fully with Dominion officers, and had secured agreement on the policy, together with an assent towards proceeding with the necessary camps involved. Permanent camps had been placed on main highways, and temporary camps elsewhere. Upwards of 22,000 men had been employed at the peak of the plan, or three times as many as would have normally been provided for in ordinary road works.

There had been considerable pressure both from Ottawa and also from the police and press on the Mainland, to get the men out of the cities, and this had been done as fast as circumstances permitted. Taken as a whole, the amount of work per man given in British Columbia had been low, compared with programmes in Eastern Canada, he averred.

## MUNICIPALITIES AFFECTED

At this date there was no question but that the municipalities were hard pressed to continue relief works for married men, and found the cost of materials burdensome, even where there was any form of work to be done. He believed it would have been impossible for the municipalities to have done more than they did, to meet the situation.

If satisfactory arrangements could be made for the completion of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, continued Mr. Bruhn, it would have a tremendous effect on unemployment, and would be a great aid in meeting that situation. Such extension, however, would be costly, and he was not prepared to advocate action in advance of its feasibility from financial and other

## CROSS-EXAMINATION

On cross-examination, Mr. Bruhn said he could not recall from memory at what figure municipal programmes had been recommended to Ottawa. Lumber bought for the camps had ranged from \$9 to \$18 per 1,000 feet, depending on supply from Coast or Interior mills. No excessive price had been paid, except possibly on small emergency lots. As far as practicable, the business had been given to operating mills, to aid continuation of their operations.

Some lumber had been bought from the Consolidated Exporters, Ltd., from stock, at a special price offered by reason of lack of export markets for the lumber.

## STIMULATE PLACER MINING

Touching on the suggestion that men be got out of the cities to wash gold on British Columbia streams under competent direction, Mr. Bruhn stated that Australia now had 8,000 men engaged on a similar plan. It would give an additional form of employment, which, to his mind, would embrace a reasonable hope of productive return in gold production.

Hon. W. A. McKenzie, chairman of the Cabinet committee on unemployment, took the stand, to deny that the province had at any time recommended a reduction of municipal programmes to Ottawa. It had been fully understood that Ottawa would only allot authorization up to \$2,750,000 for this purpose, and this had been repeatedly stated at the committee meetings, attended by M. H. McGeough, Federal relief official in British Columbia.

Mr. McKenzie denied in person the "cousin" rumor. H. T. Hatfield, who had done contract hauling for the Government on the Tulameen Road, was not a relation of his or of his family, he stated. This was the third time the same rumor has been denied before legislative committees this year. The original story arose from a letter from an up-country resident to a Liberal member on the committee.

## MUNICIPAL VOUCHERS

J. A. Craig, comptroller general, was recalled, and stated that vouchers passed by the comptroller general and audit branches up to March 20, 1932, for municipal works, totaled \$1,471,590, of which the Dominion share was \$735,795, and the provincial share, \$283,512. The amount subject to advance on municipal account was \$382,842, and \$69,440, the sum paid by the municipalities out of their own resources.

Vouchers passed by the comptroller general and audit branches on provincial works, and provincial and municipal direct relief, up to March 20, 1932, totaled \$3,931,513, said Mr. Craig. Of this sum \$1,965,755 would be the Dominion share of provincial work and direct relief. The vouchers included \$2,986,081 in provincial works, \$486,980 in Provincial and Dominion direct relief, and \$478,450 in Provincial and Dominion costs towards municipal direct relief.

Owing to the fact that the vouchers had been held up at Ottawa, after Mr. McGeough had challenged some of the certificates to be sent

forward, little payment had been received by the province yet on these accounts. Up to March 20 last \$114,631 had been remitted by Ottawa on its own account, \$96,000 towards Provincial direct relief and \$18,431 towards municipal direct relief; and there was now outstanding a sum of \$1,851,124 in respect to the vouchers detailed.

## DELAYS ADMITTED

P. Walker, Deputy Provincial Secretary, told of the method of handling direct relief, and said some delay had necessarily occurred. Vancouver accounts for direct relief had been held back several months, originally through several mistakes occurring in these accounts, and later for lack of funds when Federal payments were suspended, after differences between Mr. McGeough and the Provincial officials on voucher certificates.

E. D. Johnson, Deputy Minister of Finance, told of a suggestion by the province that British Columbia be allowed to advance \$200,000 from relief funds, to cover part of the Dominion share to the municipalities, to tide over the gap until payments could legally be resumed after passage of Federal legislation. This plan had not carried, he said. As shown in the report of the Dominion Director of Relief, \$182,000 of the Dominion accounting to the province for old age pensions had been set off against loans advanced to the province.

## HELD FOR LEGISLATION

At the present time upwards of \$300,000 of Vancouver vouchers were held by the province, pending authorization of the Dominion's share, said Mr. Johnson. The Federal authorities had only received the voucher certificates recently, at which time legislative authority under the 1931 relief act had run out. At the beginning of March, Ottawa had passed \$196,000 of the Vancouver vouchers, but the province had had no funds of its own with which to make payment.

The final position at the moment was that \$1,900,000 on Dominion account had been expended, and that \$1,800,000 had been advanced on loan to the province on its treasury bills, leaving \$223,000 spent on Dominion account more than had been received by the province. This would be rectified when the new legislation could be acted on, Mr. Johnson concluded.

M. H. McGeough, whose actions have been woven all through the proceedings of the unemployment committee, was summoned suddenly to Ottawa last week, and arrived there on Saturday, H. D. Twigg, chairman of the committee, informed its members. Even if the committee had voted to do so, it could not have recalled Mr. McGeough for that reason, he said.

The committee has been instructed to present its report by Friday.

Mr. Pooley disclosed early in his remarks that British Columbia judges were first consulted before the request was forwarded to Ottawa, leading to the recent measure before Parliament. All but one of the judges offered no comment on the intended abolition of the system, the remaining judge declaring himself as of open mind on the subject.

## CONDITIONS CHANGED

"I suggest that the grand jury system has outlived its usefulness," Mr. Pooley stated. "It is admittedly an old system, and people of British stock are slow to part with anything that had been built up through the years. It was a bulwark of the people in the old days, defending them from the corrupt system of the day. But those days are gone. Police magistrates and preliminary trials are a great deal more reliable today and there is no good reason why the duplication should remain."

Mr. Pooley said that as early as 1891 in Canada a Senate inquiry had been held as to the advisability of the elimination of grand juries. Of 100 questionnaires sent to Canadian jurists then, half had replied in favor of the abolition, thirty-nine against it, while twelve others had been doubtful on the point.

The Attorney-General read from a British police magistrate's comment on the system, pointing to "in camera" hearing before a grand jury, and branding the system as the operation of a secret tribunal, which should no longer be tolerated.

## SEVEN CENTURIES OLD

The system had persisted for more than seven hundred years, he continued, in which time general conditions in the courts had greatly changed. Grand juries in British Columbia had in the past taken on themselves something of the function of judges. The bill of expense had always been a not inconsiderable item of the situation.

One small community last Fall had a grand jury at a cost of \$1,800, which passed one bill every other day and inspected public buildings in between. There could be no proper estimation of what the system had cost the province as a whole, he declared.

Saskatchewan and Alberta had

always been without the system. Manitoba had abandoned it, while Nova Scotia was moving now to do away with the plan. In British Columbia there was no need of the additional stage in criminal proceedings at this date, and he would move the second reading of the bill, Mr. Pooley concluded.

## EXPRESSES REGRET

Mr. Maitland, while not opposing the bill to amend British Columbia jury laws, said he would regret the passing of the grand jury as an institution. In outlying parts of the province there were justices of the peace who could hardly be considered unerring in wisdom and knowledge of the law, he remarked. The practice had lent dignity to the courts, and any defection from this standard of dignity was to be regretted. The minister without portfolio trusted that gowns and other appurtenances of court work would not likewise disappear.

T. D. Pattullo declared the Legislature should have been first consulted on the matter. It was now too late, and the only course was to support the bill. He would, however, add his regrets at the passing of a time-honored safeguard of public rights.

Second reading followed, without division.

# TO ABOLISH GRAND JURY

Hon. R. H. Pooley Gives Reasons for Request That System Be Eliminated

Reasons for the proposed elimination of grand juries in British Columbia were explained in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. R. H. Pooley, K.C. The Attorney-General said the system had outlived its day and could not now be defended either on the basis of costs or results. The bill, by means of which effect will be given to Federal law to wipe out the grand jury system in British Columbia, received second reading without formal opposition other than regrets expressed by Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., and the Leader of the Opposition.

# TWO MI SET FO

District V Legislature and

District votes and ferries were late last evening compared to \$2, the purpose last Bruhn explained figures, and said desirous of prospect TransCanada completion first, but complete the transprovincial

Several Opponents the House spoke many asking for tion in their residents want. Rupert motorists cars off their with provincial prospectors are eriment for ro assessment valing operators l tion seek road representative for his district, voted last year.

## ITEM

Mr. Bruhn demands could ne had ended weight to the r in making out The itemized l Alberni Atlin Burnaby Chilliwack Comox Cranbrook Creston Delta

Dewdney Esquimalt Fernie Fort George Grand Forks-G Islands Kamloops Lillooet Mackenzie Nanaimo Okanagan, Nor Okanagan, Sou Nelson New Westminster Omineca Peace River Prince Rupert Revelstoke Richmond-Poli Rossland-Trail Saanich Salmon Arm Similkameen Skeena Vancouver, No Yale Cariboo Highw (Less est. rev

Total roads Bridges Ferries (Less est. rev

Wharves Surveys Traffic operati moval, etc. Contingencies

Total



## TWO MILLIONS SET FOR ROADS

District Votes Passed by  
Legislature for Roadwork  
and Bridges

District votes for roads, bridges and ferries were passed by the Legislature last evening at \$1,956,000, compared to \$2,495,000 set aside for the purpose last year. Hon. R. W. Bruhn explained the basis of the figures, and said the Province was desirous of prosecuting work on the Transcanada Highway to a completion first, before attempting to complete the North and South transprovincial highways.

Several Opposition members of the House spoke on the subject, many asking for special consideration in their districts. Shuswap residents want a new ferry. Prince Rupert motorists would like roadwork to permit them to take their cars off their island and link up with provincial highways. Atlin prospectors are looking to the Government for roadwork to help pay assessment values on mines. Logging operators in the Tulameen section seek road repairs. Nanaimo's representative said \$6,000 was low for his district, compared to \$15,000 voted last year.

### ITEMIZED LIST

Mr. Bruhn explained that all demands could not be met, but that he had endeavored to give fair weight to the needs of each district in making out the appropriations. The itemized list is as follows:

Alberni	35,000
Atlin	27,000
Burnaby	12,000
Cariboo	60,000
Chilliwack	30,000
Columbia	34,000
Comox	44,000
Cowichan-Newcastle	38,000
Cranbrook	38,000
Creston	58,000
Delta	28,000
Dewdney	52,000
Esquimalt	32,000
Fernie	52,000
Fort George	42,000
Grand Forks-Greenwood	25,000
Islands	45,000
Kamloops	55,000
Kaslo-Slocan	50,000
Lillooet	32,000
Mackenzie	6,000
Nanaimo	40,000
Okanagan, North	40,000
Okanagan, South	2,000
Nelson	2,000
New Westminster	2,000
Omineca	46,000
Peace River	30,000
Prince Rupert	20,000
Revelstoke	34,000
Richmond-Point Grey	12,000
Rossland-Trail	18,000
Saanich	22,000
Salmon Arm	45,000
Similkameen	40,000
Skeena	40,000
Vancouver, North	8,000
Yale	45,000
Cariboo Highway	\$21,000
(Less est. revenue)	20,000
Total roads	\$1,287,000
Bridges	340,000
Ferries	\$232,000
(Less est. revenue)	32,000
Wharves	7,500
Surveys	2,000
Traffic operation, snow removal, etc.	30,000
Contingencies	89,500
Total	\$1,956,000

## PUBLIC COSTS ARE REDUCED

Expenditures From 1929 to  
Date Have Been \$110,-  
000,000, House Told

Answering attacks by the Liberal Opposition in the Legislature last evening, Hon. J. W. Jones gave figures for expenditures under the present regime at \$110,408,076, or \$40,000,000 less than the sum the Opposition alleged had been expended by the ministry since it took office.

Mr. Jones said that appropriations in the year 1928-29 had been largely spent when the present Government assumed power, and the balance had been committed. In the following year, 1929-30, the sum of \$26,219,156 had been expended; \$29,099,964 in 1930-31, and \$28,080,030 in 1931-32, as estimated. This made a total of \$83,399,151, to which is added \$25,008,925 borrowed under loan acts, and \$2,000,000 borrowed for unemployment relief, or a gross total of \$110,408,076, he declared.

The Leader of the Opposition took issue with the figures, and repeated his assertion that \$150,000,000 had been expended by the present regime since it assumed office. He dared the Government to have an independent audit.

### FINANCE ESTIMATES

Main votes in the Department of Finance were reviewed in committee of supply for the current fiscal year. These total \$1,646,862, a reduction of \$73,653 from \$1,720,515 appropriated last year. Distribution of \$570,000 in motor licences to the municipalities, and \$170,000 in pari-mutuel receipts, is provided for the current year, or within \$5,000 of the sum dispersed on this account last year.

The votes include \$558,290 for Government agencies and assessors, a reduction from \$607,223 last year; \$17,699 net for the operation of British Columbia House in London and correlated services; \$25,000 for the Bureau of Information and general publicity; and departmental branch votes at corresponding figures to last year, with reductions being fairly general in all branches.

**Civil Service Less**—Hon. J. W. Jones told the Legislature at the evening session that fewer civil servants were in the employ of the Province now than in the year 1928-29. The increase in salaries, as at August, 1931, had been \$343,452, in three years, most of which had already been eliminated by reductions made since. This was to refute a statement by the Opposition that the Government had added huge costs to the civil service.

**Appointed Trustee**—Major J. W. Clark, formerly attached to the Lands Department, has been appointed official trustee in charge of schools in Doukhobor areas. Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe announced in the Legislature. The Government is making a definite effort to tighten up supervision of the Doukhobor schools, with a view to stopping the campaign of intimidation that has been carried on intermittently now for some years.

**Speaks on Hygiene**—Dr. L. E. Borden (Cons., Nelson), speaking to votes in the Provincial Secretary's Department last evening in the Legislature, urged the Government to implement the report of the Mental Hygiene Commission by introducing sterilization of mental defectives. Dr. Borden spoke of the wastage in human life, and the economic loss imposed through lack of adequate means of dealing with the situation presenting itself.

## LEGISLATURE SPEEDING UP

Sheaf of Bills Passed Third  
Reading, and Others Are  
Pushed Ahead

Nine bills became Acts awaiting royal assent, and eight others were advanced a stage as the British Columbia Legislature laid aside debate yesterday afternoon and completed one of the busiest sittings of the session. The \$7,500,000 loan bill, the movie quota measure, changes on amusement taxes and pari-mutuel receipts were among the bills receiving third reading.

Of considerable importance to municipalities, amendments to the Municipal Act, affecting the limit on general taxation and taxable improvements, were advanced in committee, as were the measures to regulate oil and natural gas leases, and changes in the Public Schools Act, affecting optional tax privileges for boards and councils. Amendments to the Government Liquor Act were completed in committee.

### MUNICIPAL TAXES

In committee on the municipal bill, the Legislature approved of the two-year hold of the limit of twenty mills on general purposes levies, and also of the permissive advance from 50 to 75 per cent of taxable assessment on improvements for taxation purposes.

Reginald Hayward (Cons., Victoria) piloted the bill, and explained that Victoria City had asked for both changes. Vancouver members observed very wide powers were being sought, but did not oppose the measure on Mr. Hayward's assurance that no improper use would be made of the privilege.

Raising of the improvement assessment percentage that is to be taxable at the discretion of councils, will stand in the act as a permanent provision, it was brought out.

### EXPLAINS OIL LAW

Hon. N. S. Loughheed explained at length provisions in the new British Columbia oil and natural gas legislation, under which, he said, the Province would enact at Dominion request a law that was compiled after careful study of the best of existing regulations on this continent. There were no monopolistic features in the bill, but, on the other hand, it would insure genuine development where oil or gas had been struck, he asserted.

In brief debate on a bill to incorporate drugless physicians under their own control, J. A. Loutet (Cons., Vancouver), observed that these operatives had come to stay, and he for one would support the bill. Year after year the Legislature had been urged to enact private legislation on behalf of the drugless healers and chiropractors. In so far as the drugless healers were concerned, he was prepared to give them their way. Debate was adjourned on the issue. The Chiropractic Bill was not reached on the order paper at the afternoon sitting.

### TWO NEW BILLS

Two new bills were introduced by way of amendments to the Savings and Loan Associations Act, and the Contributory Negligence Act. The former tightens supervision and control of loan associations in the province; and the latter deals with existing provisions in regard to liability for automobile accidents, where a portion of the costs is assessed on both parties to a suit, to adjust unevenness in its operation.

**Publicity Votes**—Grants of \$2,000 each to tourist bureaus in Vancouver and Victoria have been voted by the B.C. Legislature. The Government's own bureau will be financed on \$25,000 this year compared to \$57,000 for the bureau and publicity votes last year.

## TAX MEASURES ARE ADVANCED

Many Bills Hastened Forward at Brisk Sitting of  
the Legislature

Premier Tolmie appealed in the Legislature on Monday for the co-operation of all members to permit of prorogation this week, if business before the House can be settled in time. The House will not rise finally until it has received the report of the select committee on unemployment.

The House made good time in the afternoon sitting on public bills, twelve of which were advanced a stage, one through first reading, six through second readings, one enacted subject to royal assent, and four others completed in committee. Three taxation measures were included in quick action at the sitting, involving second reading of the \$7,500,000 loan bill, and completion in committee of changes in the amusement and pari-mutuel taxes.

Attorney-General Pooley explained changes in the Bills of Sale Act and the Conditional Sales Act, the chief provision of which will enact central registration of all car titles with the Provincial Commissioner of Police in place of twenty-two places of registration of titles as formerly.

### DIVISION OCCURS

The House ran into a division on amendments to the Municipalities Aid Act, which would limit at \$170,000 the pari-mutuel tax receipts handed on to municipalities. The tax is to be increased from five to seven per cent, being expected to bring \$235,000 in place of \$170,000. The difference would be retained by the Province. Debate ensued on this, ending in division of 28-18 in support of the bill. William Dick (Cons., Vancouver) and T. H. Kirk (Cons., Vancouver) bolted the Government bloc and voted with the Opposition on second reading of the bill.

Hon. J. W. Jones told of the terms of the British Columbia Loan Bill, of which \$7,000,000 would be authorized, mostly for past deficits in connection with unemployment and partly in respect to this year; \$400,000 mainly for bridges on capital account; and \$100,000 as further assistance to the Conservation Fund, to complete Provincial assistance to irrigation districts, already begun.

Hon. R. L. Maitland explained the barbers' measure, and amendments to the Companies' Act and the Greater Vancouver Water District Act, which followed. The Vancouver measure will convey power to the board to issue short term loans, omitted from the original act through oversight.

### AMUSEMENT TAX

Changes in the Amusement Tax remove exemptions of the tax on tickets of fifteen cents and under, and charge five per cent on all admissions up to 65 cents, and ten per cent over that sum. Licence fees for dance halls are also provided, but will not apply to any dance held for charitable or patriotic purposes. Borderline cases will be decided by ministerial discretion. It was stated.

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe introduced for first reading amendments to the Teachers' Pensions Act, which will make easier the position of the beneficiary on the sudden removal of the insured by death, and confer other rights in regard to the pensionability of reinstated teachers.

Prior service will not count for pensions after a lapse of ten years. Under that period discretionary powers of pension crediting will be given to the commissioner, provided the reinstated teacher serves for a period of five years on the second occasion. Actuarial valuations of the whole scheme once every five years is another provision in the bill.



# Committee Informed That M. H. McGeough Held Two Positions

Legislative Group Told Relief Supervisor Worked on Full-Time Basis for B.C. Government and C.P.R. Prior to Federal Appointment

**V**ERSATILITY on the part of M. H. McGeough, Dominion relief officer in British Columbia, was outlined to the legislative committee on unemployment yesterday, when it was shown Mr. McGeough held two full-time jobs at the same time. One was as a \$4-a-day watchman in vacant factories for the British Columbia Department of Industries, and the other as \$125-per-month employee of the Canadian Pacific Railway. This was in 1927, and continued for some time, the committee was told.

Mr. McGeough's connection with the British Columbia department of industries lasted from October, 1924, up to September, 1931. Shortly after which he was appointed by the Dominion Government as assistant director of relief in British Columbia.

## PURCHASING EXPLAINED

Most of the sitting was devoted to explanation of the system of purchasing for the camps, detailed by Victor Rollins, purchasing agent. A number of witnesses were called, as the committee sought to complete the long-drawn-out proceedings.

Joseph P. Hodgson, general contractor and president of the Vancouver Contractors' Association, told of an offer made by the association to place its services and equipment at the disposal of the Government, in connection with relief work. Hon. R. W. Bruhn showed interest in the proposals and had been given a list of equipment owned by the group.

The association represented it had a large amount of machinery idle, and men who would have to go on relief if not able to secure work. This was in September. The contractors wanted the Government to use some of these men, and hire the equipment, where suitable. This would have been entertained by the association on a percentage basis, over the cost in salaries and hire of machinery. The contractors were anxious to get their keymen occupied, witness said. The offer was rejected.

Some of the equipment, however, was rented, Mr. Hodgson concluded. Andrew M. Innes, a freight agent for the Canadian Pacific Railway at Vancouver, was called to the stand.

## HAD BEEN CHALLENGED

M. H. McGeough had given evidence before the committee that had been squarely challenged by a number of witnesses, General Clark interjected. Mr. McGeough, it had been suggested, was a former employee of the C.P.R., and had held this and a Government job at the same time.

Opposition members protested this was not relevant to the inquiry. General Clark said he would take the responsibility for the proceedings.

Mr. McGeough was employed by the C.P.R. on July 15, 1927, and held numerous positions in that service. Mr. Innes resumed. His average salary had been \$125 per month. Mr. McGeough, during his services, was in good standing with the company, and had worked previously on the Prairie as a telegrapher and dispatcher.

## HELD TWO JOBS

E. D. Johnson, Deputy Minister of Finance, stated Mr. McGeough had been in the full-time employment of the British Columbia Government from October, 1924, onwards for several years, at \$4 a day, as a watchman for vacant factories. This employment had continued up to last year in September, after which time he had been appointed to the Dominion Government relief post. The British Columbia Government had no knowledge that Mr. McGeough was also holding a full-time

job with the C.P.R. at the same time, while factory watchman under the department of industries, Mr. Johnson stated.

Mr. Rollins, resuming on the stand, told of efforts by the Government to secure British Columbia goods, as a settled policy. The Government at one point encouraged the West Coast Woolen Mills to manufacture white blankets for use in British Columbia institutions, and grey blankets for the camps. This had resulted in purchase of more than 200,000 pounds of British Columbia wool from producers. Some 7,000 blankets were bought through the West Coast mill, and 450 pairs from Turner-Beeton, at Victoria, for a rush order. Financial assistance had been privately arranged to enable the West Coast mill to fill the order for the larger number.

## FLOUR PRICES CITED

Mr. Rollins told of prices paid for flour shipped to Golden and Windermere. The price paid had been \$5.10 a barrel on ordinary flour, compared to the average Vancouver quotation of about \$5.30 at that time. British Columbia might have bought more cheaply at Golden, said witness, but was anxious to use British Columbia flour, paying the difference in this case. Alberta flour had been obtainable at Golden, but the Government was following its settled policy of using British Columbia goods wherever possible.

The department had been under pressure from hundreds of small merchants throughout the province to distribute its orders, and not buy wholesale where local dealers could be utilized. The relief committee of the Cabinet had set a basis to accomplish this, allowing 5 per cent as a dealer's profit.

At Golden \$1,637 had been paid to Thomas King & Son, for goods supplied, witness said, in response to further questions.

Lumber used in the camps had been bought at prices ranging between \$9.50 per 1,000 feet to \$15.50, delivered in the camps.

## BEDS AND MATTRESSES

Mr. Rollins disclosed details in connection with camp outfitting. Steel frame beds had been bought for \$2.40 each, with a return salvage value of \$1 each. Cheap mattresses, sufficient for the use of the camps, had been bought for prices ranging from 90c to \$1.15 each. These orders had been split up among British Columbia wholesalers at Vancouver and Victoria.

The committee hopes to conclude today.

# REPORT OPENED TRADE FOR B.C.

Lively Debate Touches on Opposition Leader's Trip to Europe

Debate in the Legislature last evening got so spirited at one point that the chair of the Honorable the Minister of Mines parted in two and precipitated an unwitting collapse of a part of the Government, to hilarious applause of Government and Opposition benches alike.

The debate ostensibly was over the sum of \$1,000 paid in connection with a trade report about Jamaica, but actually covered a wide range of subjects, including a trip taken to Europe by the Leader of the Opposition, at a cost of \$4,000, while former Minister of Lands.

George Pearson (Liberal, Nanaimo) started it by reading a letter which he said was a copy of one sent to Premier Tolmie by some fifteen fruit and wholesale dealers in Vancouver and Victoria, protesting against the payment of \$1,000 to Harry Hastings in connection with his Jamaica trade report.

Hon. William Atkinson showed that Mr. Hastings had gone to Jamaica at his own expense, and had saved the way for a two-way trade of increasing promise as a result of his private actions in the matter. The Markets Branch had paid \$1,000 for his report and had received excellent value for the expenditure. Importation of citrus fruits from Jamaica in 1929 had been nil, while in 1930 some 500 cases had been imported, rising to 2,200 cases last year.

Improved cargo accommodation and the nucleus of a two-way trade had been one result, and another was a material drop in the price of American fruits sold on the British Columbia market, the House was informed from the Government benches.

Shingle squares exported from this province to Jamaica rose from 600,000 to 1,750,000 a year, while jams, box shooks and many other lines of export had since been participated in by British Columbia shippers. Credit for paving the way for the introduction of this British trade was given squarely to Mr. Hastings by James H. Beatty, J. A. Loutet and many other speakers.

## RETURNS ATTACK

Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., roused by a remark made by the Opposition, said "Wholesale Row" in Vancouver was a "cold-blooded aggregation which had no interest at all in Empire trade." The wholesalers there, he declared, had watched the recent British Columbia cantaloupe and tomato troubles without a qualm, and sought only to see that nothing interfered with the sale of foreign fruit.

Thundering in towards the middle of the debate, Hon. W. A. McKenzie

compared the sum paid for the Jamaica trade report with the trip taken by the Leader of the Opposition to Europe in 1921. Mr. Pattullo had announced that he was going to Norway and Sweden to look "into the extraction of nitrogen fertilizer from the elements of the air," and had returned with the opinion "that Paris was the gayest city of the world," while nitrogen and the elements had been quite forgotten. The trip cost \$4,000 and had not been productive of any benefit, he averred.

## ANSWERS MINISTER

Mr. Pattullo was on his feet at once. He had visited France, Germany, Sweden and England, and in London had talked with Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill, then Colonial Secretary, as to Pacific Great Eastern Railway development, he declared. He had also investigated lumbering conditions in Sweden, to see what could be learned of benefit to this province. He may have said that Paris was the gayest city, and it was probably true, he added.

Mr. McKenzie was in the midst of a whirlwind reply when the shank of his swivel chair raised out of its socket and precipitated the minister into a moment of discomfort, from which, however, he made a fast recovery and a strong finish. Jamaica trade was lost sight of in the general excitement, and the House passed on to estimates in the Provincial Secretary's Department.

# REPLY IS MADE ON BOARD COST

Attorney-General Pooley Declares Figures Given in House Misleading

Correcting what he said had been misleading information given in the Legislature this week by the member for Omineca, Attorney-General Pooley made a ministerial explanation in the House yesterday on affairs of the Liquor Control Board.

Answering a suggestion that 235 per cent profit had been made on one line, Mr. Pooley said this concerned sixty-three cases of old Bourbon whisky seized by the customs under the former regime and turned over to the then Liquor Board for payment merely of the holding charges. The liquor was for more than two years in the warehouse of the board, but had been sold at a good profit by the present Liquor Board, because it had not been bought in the first place, but taken over for customs charges.

## ONLY ONE INSTANCE

Leaving this stock in the warehouse for more than two years was only one instance of loss under the former board, which had carried stocks of liquor as high as \$2,500,000 at one time. The present board carried a stock never over \$1,250,000 and between that and \$1,000,000, saving \$60,000 yearly in interest on the smaller stock carried, continued Mr. Pooley.

It had been said also that the board had raised its prices. The facts were, prices were reduced in January, 1931, to the extent of \$73,000, but 4 per cent had to be added later when the Dominion Government raised its sales tax. Operating costs, he continued, had increased slightly, and to not half the extent cited by the member for Omineca. The operating cost of the liquor administration had been 5.2 in 1930, and not 6.49 per cent as had been intimated.

# SOLDIERS' CHILDREN

The sum of \$12,000 was voted by the Legislature last evening for continuation of soldiers' dependents' educational allowances. Administered by an independent volunteer board, the scheme last year gave small educational allowances on a monthly basis to 130 students, assisting them in their education. The \$25,000 voted last year in scholarships at the University will have to be eliminated this year, Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe explained.

Discussion of the main grant to the University was stood over at the request of the Opposition.

# REDUCED IN DEPENDENT

Provincial Hospitals Are

Estimates in the Provincial Secretary's Department by the Legislature showing a reduction in the total appropriation compared to \$3,500,000. S. L. Howe explained the work of the report and other vote.

The welfare organization under rearrangement provision for vision in the field.

The main vote are similar to those shown in most of the cost of \$472,000 now carried by \$378,000.

Other votes mental hospitals, quill and \$21 branch and its closure of the sessions.

Statutory grants of \$44,500 for other grant, government contribution annuities fund.

Institutional to the British Red Cross Health Centre.

Y.W.C.A. at Vancouver, Y.W.C.A. at Victoria, curtailed list for the current.

# BONUS BE

City Will Be Guaranteed Giving

Victoria will be bonus industry to the Municipality, the Legislature yesterday by solicitor.

Such guarantee given the grant, age plant and objects will be explained.

The power and exempting taxes will be city and all of an amendment, deletes clauses Section 54 of

## POWER

Through the clauses the city from making tries. It will guaranteeing either as to and will be for a period of

This legislation is considered important piece of legislation for a number

The advisability of subsidizing has been a matter to the municipality powers.



## REDUCE VOTES IN DEPARTMENT

Provincial Obligations to  
Hospitals and Charities  
Are Provided

Estimates in the Provincial Secretary's Department were considered by the Legislature last evening, showing a reduction of \$211,713 from the votes asked last year. The total appropriation is \$2,936,280, compared to \$3,147,993 in 1931. Hon. S. L. Howe explained consolidation of welfare work proposed as a result of the report on mothers' pensions, and other votes in the department.

The welfare branch is to be re-organized under one head, with a rearrangement of duties, making provision for more adequate supervision in the field.

The main votes in the department are similar to last year, though reduced in most cases. The Provincial cost of mothers' pensions is shown as \$472,000, and that to be now carried by the municipalities \$378,000.

Other votes include \$419,430 for mental hospitals, \$199,146 for Tranquille and \$216,403 for the welfare branch and its many services, exclusive of the cost of mothers' pensions.

Statutory grants to hospitals will be \$820,000, not including special grants of \$44,550, \$21,500 of which is for other grants to hospitals. Government contribution to the superannuation fund will be \$200,000.

Institutional grants include \$1,000 to the British Columbia Division of the Red Cross, \$1,500 to Saanich Health Centre, \$1,000 to the Y.W.C.A. at Vancouver, \$500 to the Y.W.C.A. at Victoria, and a much-curtailed list of small grants voted for the current year.

## BONUSES TO BE BARRED

City Will Be Prohibited From  
Guaranteeing Bonds or  
Giving Exemptions

Victoria will no longer be able to bonus industries if an amendment to the Municipal Act is passed by the Legislature, it was announced yesterday by H. S. Pringle, city solicitor.

Such guarantees of bonds as were given the grain elevator, cold storage plant and worsted mill projects will be things of the past, he explained.

The power of aiding, bonusing and exempting of industries from taxes will be taken away from the city and all other municipalities by an amendment to the act which deletes clauses 11 to 24, inclusive, of Section 54 of the Municipal Act.

### POWER REMOVED

Through the deletion of these clauses the city will be prohibited from making cash bonuses to industries. It will be prohibited from guaranteeing bonds of a company either as to principal or interest, and will be unable to grant tax exemptions or create fixed taxation for a period of years.

This legislation at the City Hall is considered by many as the most important piece of municipal legislation that has been introduced for a number of years.

The advisability of municipalities subsidizing industries has always been a matter of contention, owing to the municipalities' limited taxation powers.

## UNEMPLOYMENT PANEL CLOSING

Twenty Hearings and Sixty  
Hours of Public Inquiry  
Were Held

After some sixty hours of public hearings, with twenty sittings, the Legislative committee on unemployment wound up the taking of evidence yesterday morning, and will now prepare its report to the Legislature.

The end came suddenly, after formal representations on behalf of the nonpermanent active militia, seeking local control over unemployed men in Coast units, with the offer of putting regimental organizations at the disposal of the Province to this end.

### PRESENT PROPOSAL

Militia units of the nonpermanent force of artillery and line regiments in Vancouver and Victoria laid a concrete proposal before the committee, through Capt. M. F. Macintosh, M.P.F. Lieut.-Col. T. B. Monk, Victoria, and Major Sherwood Lett, Vancouver, said approximately four hundred men listed in volunteer units were unemployed, and could be better cared for through regimental channels than in Provincial relief camps, without any added cost. They offered the full disposal of these organizations in caring for their own men.

The delegation was heartily thanked for its suggestions. It was composed of commanding and ranking officers of Vancouver and Victoria units, as follows: Colonel Perry, Col. P. White, Major Sherwood Lett, Major S. F. Moodie, of Vancouver, and Col. T. B. Monk, Major G. Barton and Capt. S. Bowden and Capt. C. L. Branson, of Victoria.

The officers stressed the splendid type of men in the regiments, some of whom were not able to get work at this time, and urged separate treatment under regimental activities as a solution of the difficulty. Taking the men to camp broke up drills and the ordinary routine of training, it was pointed out.

### HELD TWO JOBS

Reverting to the dual positions formerly held by M. H. McGeough, who, the committee had been previously told, held posts under the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Provincial Government concurrently, Dr. W. H. Sutherland (Liberal, Revelstoke) informed the committee this had been with the full knowledge of both employers.

Challenged on this, Dr. Sutherland said he was informed that Col. D. B. Martyn, former British Colum-

bia commissioner of industries, had permitted Mr. McGeough to work for the C.P.R. at the same time as he had been employed as watchman at \$4 a day in a nut and bolt factory at Vancouver, under government control. Dr. Sutherland said he was also informed Mr. McGeough had had the consent of the C.P.R. to this course. The matter was not pursued.

### MAKES GENERAL CHARGE

The public hearings of the committee ended with a general charge by the Leader of the Opposition that the investigation into unemployment affairs had not been full enough. Every government agent, engineer and other official who had been connected with the work should have been examined. George S. Pearson (Liberal, Nanaimo) said the committee had been called to examine all phases of relief and had not done so.

H. D. Twigg (Conservative, Victoria), chairman of the group, reported that twenty public sittings had been held and everything investigated that had been brought before the committee in a concrete way as relevant to the issue. He personally had heard little of a constructive nature from the Member for Nanaimo as to any solution of the unemployment problem. Adjournment followed. The committee is to report to the Legislature.

## Reduction in House Membership Likely On Redistribution

Victoria Would Retain Four Seats, Lower Main-  
land to Have Eleven, New Seat for Peace  
and Three Ridings Will Disappear

**B** RITISH Columbia's Legislature may be reduced by one seat if present plans are embodied in amendments to the Constitution Act, which will make its appearance in the House shortly. One new seat would be added in the Peace River area, one to the Lower Mainland area by a rearrangement of boundaries west of Dewdney, and three seats eliminated by elision of two ridings in each case. This would give a total membership in the Legislature of forty-seven, compared to forty-eight as at present.

Forecast of the actual redistribution measure reached the House yesterday, in further amendments to the Provincial Elections Act, providing for a division of Vancouver into four ridings, to be known as Vancouver-Burrard, Vancouver Centre, Vancouver East and Vancouver-Point Grey. Changes in the provincial elections measure also provide for a simplified form of voting registration for naturalized British subjects.

### VICTORIA, FOUR SEATS

While members of the ministry have declined to anticipate the intentions of the Government on redistribution, it is unofficially believed that Victoria will retain its four seats in the House. Circles close to the Government believe Alberni and Nanaimo, Columbia and Revelstoke, Nelson and Creston, will be thrown into three seats, eliminating three others. One seat would be added, it is thought, by provision of a new seat in the Lower Mainland area tributary to Vancouver.

The new seat in the Peace River area would be created to take care of the new district which is rapidly gaining settlement, and would involve about the only change that is to be made in the North. Some boundary rearrangement in other contiguous areas would not alter the seats affected.

Redistribution plangs of the Government were caucused last week, and are understood to have been left

in the position where Vancouver members were to report back on the redivision of boundaries in that area.

General discussion of the subject is understood to have brought out the fact that further limitation of membership is not considered entirely feasible at this time, owing to the huge territory involved in northern and inland ridings, and a congregation of a large percentage of the population in cities, where the ridings are territorially small.

Under other conditions, a gain of 100,000 in population in the last decade would have brought a material increase in membership, in place of which the actual reduction believed firmly in contemplation.

## Redistribution Of Profits Is Being Proposed

Representatives of Vancouver and Victoria civic authorities proposed to the Government this week that rearrangement be made of the distribution of liquor profits to British Columbia municipalities on a basis that would lessen some of the burden of social service costs in these centres.

The proposal, in brief, was that the Government deduct from the liquor profits available for the municipalities the total bill of civic liability or social services, making disbursement of the balance of the liquor profits on a basis of school population.

## HOUSE PUSHES ITS ESTIMATES

Few Votes Left as Result of  
Midnight Sitting, on Ex-  
penditures

Sitting until past midnight, the Legislature virtually completed passage of the remainder of its estimates, all save two votes, which will be reached some time today.

Capital expenditures out of revenue were passed at \$3,357,582, composed of \$2,098,682 in sinking funds, \$352,000 for debenture retirement, and \$907,200 for interest on P.G.E. bond guarantees. Supplementary estimates in respect to last year, were passed at \$310,365, after being detailed.

Provision of charges on the public debt was made at \$6,218,379. Matrimonies this year, it was explained by Hon. J. W. Jones, will include \$6,015,000 payable in New York.

## PROVINCE TAKES FULL ADVANTAGE OF GRANTS MADE

Replying in the Legislature this week to a statement made by Thomas Reid, M.P., in the Federal House, Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe showed that British Columbia had been foremost in taking benefits under the system of Dominion grants to technical education during the ten-year operation of the plan.

All the money to which British Columbia was entitled had been drawn and applied for the purpose during the operation of the scheme. Reopening of the plan to enable other provinces to complete their quota in no way affected British Columbia, which had taken full advantage of the measure, it was shown.

British Columbia drew \$623,079 in all under the scheme, and had been generously treated, he stated.



## NEW TAXES EXPLAINED

Hon. J. W. Jones Outlines to  
Legislature Effect of In-  
come Measure

Chief taxation bills of the session came down in the Legislature yesterday, including the new Income Tax Act, and a companion measure to vary the provisions of the Special Revenue Tax Act of 1931. Hon. J. W. Jones spoke to the bills in the evening sitting, explaining what the Government contemplates doing.

"Adoption of the new Income Tax Act makes it possible to discontinue both the gross income tax and the special revenue tax," the Minister of Finance explained. "The conditions under which three separate taxes were imposed not only led to confusion, but gave rise to inequalities, as well as causing additional administrative work."

### TERMS OUTLINED

Personal allowances are to be made positive exemptions instead of rebates, in the new measure, and the exemption of \$500 applicable to married persons will also apply to householders, Mr. Jones explained.

The exemptions are \$500 in respect to married persons and householders, including widows and widowers with dependent children, up to \$300 on insurance premiums paid, and \$200 in respect to each dependent. No exemption is allowed nonresidents, or single persons, including widows and widowers, without dependent children.

Exemptions under the special revenue tax will not apply, when the new bill becomes law. Husband and wives with separate incomes will receive only \$500 combined exemption, but exemptions for children in such cases may be apportioned between them. The rate of taxation, as explained in the budget, will commence at 1 per cent on the first \$1,000 of income, being progressively increased by 1 per cent on each additional \$1,000 up to \$19,000.

### HOW IT WORKS

Not as the rate of tax, but as the net effect the following taxable proportion of incomes will pay the total equivalent percentages shown in parenthesis: \$1,000 (1 per cent); \$2,000 (1½ per cent); \$3,000 (2 per cent); \$4,000 (2½ per cent); \$5,000 (3 per cent); and so on by half per cent stages up to \$19,000 of taxable income, where the proportion paid in taxes would be 10 per cent, continuing at that rate to \$50,000.

The 1 per cent deductions on wages will continue, but the exemptions of \$15 and \$25 weekly will be removed, and the new provisions apply, Mr. Jones continued. "Thereafter employers will be required to deduct 1 per cent from the wages of all their employees, excepting in occasional domestic service for which not more than \$5 is paid," he explained.

### NO 1931 REFUNDS

"The tax imposed by last year's special revenue tax act constitutes the minimum tax payable on the income assessed thereunder, and no refunds of taxes paid under that act can be made," Mr. Jones stated at another point.

"In future, however, deductions made by an employer from an employee's wages in excess of the tax due under the new act will be refunded to the employee upon receipt of his return of income," continued the Minister of Finance.

This will apply on incomes after the calendar year 1931, expressly dealt with by the previous remarks.

### TIME EXTENDED MONTH

"In view of the uncertainty attendant on changes of acts, the commissioner will exercise the authority given him to extend time for filing returns this year to April 30, but returns may be submitted on the forms originally in use, and the appropriate exemptions will be applied by the assessing staff. Employers will continue to make returns as to deductions, as heretofore. Everyone in receipt of an income from any source in excess of the exemptions must file a return. All 1932 taxes will be payable on receipt of an assessment notice as formerly.

"Commencing with the 1933 assessment year, taxpayers will be required to calculate their own tax, and pay at least one-quarter of the estimated amount with their returns. The balance of the tax may be paid in three installments, with interest at 6 per cent. A penalty of an additional 4 per cent is provided for overdue payments.

### CORPORATION CHANGES

"Guarantee, trust and loan companies and public utility corporations, formerly taxed on gross income are now made liable to the tax on net income, to the extent that this tax exceeds the tax payable on their gross income.

"Ex-provincial incomes will be taxable whether brought into the province or not, unless derived from

investments made before the taxpayer became a resident of the province.

"Income in the hands of co-operative marketing associations will be exempt, but distributions to farmer members will be taxable in their hands, on incomes over \$1,000," Mr. Jones concluded.

## U.B.C. GRANT IS RATIFIED

Legislature Passes Sum of  
\$250,000 for University  
Assistance

Completing votes in the Educational Department last evening, the Legislature approved of a grant of \$250,000 to the University of British Columbia after debate on the issue put up by the Opposition. The grant last year was \$462,700.

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe explained the course of negotiations between the Government and the governors of the university, and said that the institution had already budgeted on the basis of the reduced grant. Premier Tolmie said the Government would see what could be done to help in other ways.

If the Government was to keep its expenditure down, it was forced with the necessity of paring in every way, and much as it was regretted no exception could be made in the case of the university, speakers on the Government side declared.

The annual grant of \$3,000 to Victoria College was previously ratified.

## CHIROPRACTIC BILL HALTED

Sustained Attack on Private  
Bill Staged in Legisla-  
ture in Debate

Chiropactic legislation was halted in the Legislature yesterday when adjournment on debate of the bill was taken after a discussion of more

than an hour, during which time special legislation to establish chiropactors under their own administration and regulations came under heavy fire from professional members in the House.

Dr. J. J. Gillis (Lib., Yale) said he wished to have it realized that chiropactors were not qualified to practice on the general public, for the treatment of all ailments. Physicians spent from seven to ten years in acquiring knowledge of the human body, and it was absurd to think that anyone could, in eighteen months, learn enough to render him capable of general practice, he said. He flatly opposed the bill.

R. W. Alward (Cons., Fort George) stated he concurred with Dr. Gillis.

He did not believe that chiropactors had any qualification or right to treat of infectious or contagious disease. He would, however, be willing to grant powers along restricted lines, within the capabilities of the practice on matters where it might be efficacious. He would oppose the present bill, he said.

Dr. C. M. Kingston (Cons., Grand Forks-Greenwood) said the chiropactors had advanced nothing beyond their claims and ambitions of fifteen years ago. Medical science was not personally interested in the issue, except to see that the public was safeguarded. Knowledge of medicine was as old as man, and had improved with modern science, step by step. He cited the smallpox scare at Vancouver, and said chiropactors had done nothing to avert an epidemic—happily arrested by action of provincial and Vancouver health officials.

### SUPPORTS MEASURE

J. A. Loutet (Cons., North Vancouver) said simply he would support the bill. Chiropactors and drugless healers were practising, and even if their action only produced a mental stimulus, that was a gain to those benefiting by their treatment. He would at least grant some measure of self control to the practitioners.

Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., declared an open mind on the bill, chiefly on the ground that while no corresponding period of training was demanded of drugless physicians, as had to be accumulated by orthodox medical practitioners before treating the public, some measure of legislation would confine other cults to some discernible limits. If the legislation passed, it could always be controlled by the Legislature, depending on the results.

Dr. L. E. Borden (Cons., Nelson) adjourned debate, over protest, and a show of hands, 23 to 13, in favor of this course.

## DRASTIC CUTS ARE EFFECTED

Estimates for Attorney-Gen-  
eral's Dep't \$1,188,849  
Less Than 1931

Estimates in the Attorney-General's Department were reviewed by the Legislature last evening, in committee of supply. The total vote is shown as \$2,136,861, a reduction of \$1,188,849 from \$3,325,710 voted last year. Attorney-General Pooley explained the estimates.

Land registry offices are budgeted at \$133,291, compared to \$149,358 last year. Operation of the Provincial Police, including all votes, will be \$590,512, a reduction from \$638,561 last year. The total cost of the Game Branch is \$193,179, compared with \$206,445 in the year previous. Game bounties are listed at \$5,000.

### LIQUOR PROFITS

The municipalities' share of the liquor profits for the year is estimated at \$785,000, a reduction from \$1,000,000 estimated in 1931, consequent on falling revenues.

County jails will cost \$102,474, slightly less than in the year previous. Branch office votes are considerably reduced from the corresponding totals of the year before. The many services include the companies' branch, \$27,934; Fire Marshal's Act, \$10, after deduction of \$19,542 chargeable to the special fund; municipal branch, \$7,111; moving picture censorship, \$13,687; sheriff's offices, \$24,505, besides the provision for court registries and other services in that connection.

Administration of game laws came in for debate from Opposition members, much of which involved discussion that retraced ground covered earlier in the session on the same matter. The total vote for all game administration purposes this year is \$193,179, or less than it was last year.

### POLICE ADMINISTRATION

G. A. Walkem (Cons., Vancouver), pointing to the operation of Dominion, Provincial, Municipal and private police bodies in British Columbia, asked why one force could not do it all. Saskatchewan had abolished its own police system, and this trend was being widely followed, he observed. Mr. Walkem suggested amalgamation, or at any event, a study of the matter.

Attorney-General Pooley said amalgamation, in the case of Dominion and Federal police, would not be a saving.

Provincial police performed many services which would not be carried out by the Mounties, he declared, paying a high tribute to the members of both forces. Mr. Pooley agreed that the ideal of one force was attractive but not as practical as might appear on the surface. The British Columbia police now administer law and order in twenty-two municipal centres, and no city had regretted its agreement, he said in conclusion.

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## Chiropractic Bill Has Stormy Period In B.C. Legislature

Second Reading Given With Margin of One Vote  
on Division 22-21 Along Nonparty Lines  
in House Yesterday

**B**Y the narrow margin of one vote, the Legislature decided yesterday on second reading of the chiropractic bill, after debate which lasted for two and a half hours and was participated in without political affiliations. The actual division was 22-21 in favor of second reading, leaving the fate of the bill still in the balance, with two more stages to go.

Second reading on division was supported by Messrs. Loutet, Carson, Rutledge, Uphill, King, Pearson, Dick, Lister, Gray, Hayward, Twigg, Maitland, Howe, Jones, Tolmie, Pooley, Michael Manson, Cornett, Shelly, Atkinson, Loughheed and W. A. McKenzie.

Voting against further consideration of the measure were Messrs. Fitzsimmons, Hanna, MacPherson, Gillis, Kingston, Berry, Borden, Kirk, Wrinch, Kergin, Sutherland, Pattullo, A. M. Manson, Alward, Spencer, Walkem, Macintosh, Michell, MacNaughton, Schofield and Beatty.

The division crossed all party lines and was on individual opinions of the members, on a measure that has already been explained as a public bill in the hands of a private member and in no sense a Government measure. Ten members took part in the debate.

### PREDICTS FAILURE

Dr. L. E. Borden (Conservative, Nelson) opposed the bill. He had no row with chiropractors, but believed in the interest of public welfare any practice which denied diagnosis as essential to proper treatment should not be tolerated. If the law passed, he predicted, the Legislature would shoulder a tremendous responsibility, for which it would be bitterly sorry inside of two years.

A. M. Manson, K.C. (Liberal, Omineca) also opposed the bill. He scouted as futile any faith founded on the belief that correction of subluxation of the spine could cure all human ills. An elementary knowledge of mechanics would disprove this, he said. He regretted the inquiry had been debarred from finding on the merits of the practice, from a public health standpoint, and warned the House that if the bill passed, the members would be laying on the altar of politics the life of their own children.

Physicians spent five years and over on a study of anatomy. Chiropractors went through a complete course on everything in eighteen months at some American college, and their leaders, Mr. Manson said, scouted bacteriology, diagnosis and chemistry, and held that 95 per cent of all disease came from one cause. There was little sense in argument over such beliefs, to his mind. The former head of the Palmer College of Chiropractic had publicly held bacteriology to be a farce, and that view must stand as the opinion of his followers. Mr. Manson appealed to the House to kill the bill.

### TURN TO CULTS

George S. Pearson (Liberal, Nanaimo) said he would support the bill, and thought that its terms could be amended as the Legislature saw fit, as a result of actual operation of the plan. He scored the restricted scope of the inquiry, and said that he thought chiropractic had a place in health services, but was by no means a cure-all. Present-day health methods were in part responsible for the turning of some people to cults, he averred. The bill would at least regulate matters.

W. R. Rutledge (Conservative, Burnaby) supported the bill, saying

that if abuses arose these would soon become apparent, and could be remedied. He believed that it would be in the interest of physicians to have chiropractors tied down to some plan, when, if one-half of what had been said about their practice was correct, they would abolish themselves when left to their own devices.

### DEFENDS MEASURE

H. D. Twigg (Conservative, Victoria), who has fathered the legislation introduced before two sessions and was mainly instrumental in reopening the subject on inquiry this year, defended the bill. Chiropractors had made steady advances since the days of the report of Mr. Justice Hodgins, so often misquoted, he said, and had developed an evident public support.

Every effort had been made to remove from their bill any matter of offence to the medical profession, including all claim to the title of doctor or physician. On the other hand leave was sought only to carry on their particular calling, without attempting to practise surgery, to prescribe drugs, or usurp in any sense the field of qualified physicians and surgeons.

It was admittedly a different concept of disease, but so had been some of the greatest advances in science, including the Pasteur discovery. Chiropractors had practised for twenty years in the province, and the public had supported them to no uncertain extent. Claims of damage from chiropractic he denied as unjustified, and asserted that the same claims, with at least equal effect, could be made in respect to established practice in medicine, for all of the care and study used. Chiropractors had won their right to continue, and the Legislature should not deny the few concessions sought, wholly within the gift of the country to give or remove.

### UNPROVED CLAIMS

Dr. G. K. MacNaughton (Conservative, Comox) opposed the bill on the grounds that chiropractors had at no point proved their claim to proper qualifications to treat the public. The Legislatures of Ontario and British Columbia had decided in separate inquiries that it was not in the public interest to permit chiropractors separate control and regulation in the practice of an unproved cult.

James H. Beatty (Conservative, Victoria) told of a man who had been a young business student at his school one year, and a little while later had blossomed out as a professor of physiology and hygiene at an American college. He doubted if the "subjects" proposed to be set for chiropractic examinations under their own control would be anything more than mere names. There was no doubt about the fees, he continued, reading a section of the bill which would give chiropractors sweeping powers to recover fees at law for aid, advice or visits.

Dr. H. C. Wrinch (Liberal, Skeena) said that the protection of the public was the point at issue. To his mind the bill would not give this protection in a satisfactory form.

### SUPPORTS THE BILL

Premier Tolmie explained the proposed legislation was not a Government measure. He was opposed, he said, to quacking in any profession or calling, but had seen the veterinary profession clean up its ranks from within, when given some powers of individual control. The quacks in that profession had passed out of the picture, and skilled veterinarians had remained. He believed that this was the best remedy in the present case, and would therefore support the bill.

T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, said he could not support the bill, as he could not see any adequate measure of protection for the public in its terms. Second reading followed.

## FEDERAL RELIEF BOARD SOUGHT

New Bills Tumble Into Legislature in Crowded Evening Sitting

International action to bring shorter hours for labor on the North American Continent, coupled with a Federal commission to inquire in what steps can be taken for the solution of present unemployment relief problems, was the aim of a resolution moved by Colonel Nelson Spencer (Cons., Vancouver) in the Legislature last evening, and which received the support of the House.

Colonel Spencer pointed to the expenditure of \$200,000,000 in Canada without immediate change in the situation.

Much legislation was advanced during a crowded sitting. The income tax bill, the chief fiscal measure of the session, received second reading on division by 28 to 12, on straight party lines.

### NEGATIVE PROPOSAL

Tom Uphill (Lab., Fernie) was denied his motion to urge that Section 98 of the Criminal Code, enacted during the former Winnipeg strike, be repealed in Federal law. T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, voting with the Government to negative the proposal.

Amendments to the Taxation Act, affecting taxes on timber and logged-off lands, and the right of the Government to pay real estate commissions, were introduced for first reading; as were a moratorium bill and amendments to the Superannuation Act, yet to be explained.

When the House rose at about 11:30 p.m., it was with the knowledge that it will likely sit most of next week, as well as two sittings today.

## WILL VALIDATE RELIEF COSTS

Hon. J. W. Jones Introduces  
Bill to Meet Unemployment  
Outlays

Validating Dominion, Provincial and Municipal unemployment relief agreements undertaken in 1931, and making provision in an unstated amount for the entering into of whatever further agreements are necessary this year are the main terms of an unemployment relief bill introduced by Hon. J. W. Jones in the Legislature yesterday.

Mr. Jones referred to the legislation as a "blank cheque" measure, subject, however, to the defined authority of the Province to contract relief obligations. It was necessary, he said, to validate the agreements necessary to the carrying out of unemployment relief up to the present fiscal year, and to make general provision for needs in this year.

### POWER TO BORROW

Under the authority of the 1932 Loan Act, the Government has power to borrow up to \$7,000,000 for the retirement of deficits in connection with unemployment relief last year, and for whatever sums are found to be necessary in this coming period.

In the terms of the bill, future provision is contained in the following extract: "The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may make provision for the borrowing of further moneys from the Dominion for expenditure in the relief of unemployment as may be found necessary."

The bill received first reading on introduction.

## Invitation May Be Extended to Prince of Wales

**I**NVITATION of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to attend the opening of the Imperial Conference at Ottawa in July is the subject of a resolution to be introduced in the Provincial Legislature by A. Wells Gray, New Westminster. The resolution will ask that the Secretary of State for Canada be requested to invite the Prince to attend the opening deliberations, that "by his presence its success, which is of such deep significance to our Empire, may be assured."

## B.C. MORTGAGE BILL OUTLINED

Moratorium Would Apply on  
Principal Sums, but Not  
Interest of Taxes

British Columbia's moratorium measure was introduced in the Legislature last evening, being a year's moratorium on mortgage principal sums only, with provision for court process at the instigation of the lender where taxes and interest are in default by the mortgagor. Attorney-General Pooley explained that the bill was on the lines of the Ontario law, providing for an automatic stay of repayment on mortgage principal during its operation. Interest and taxes must be met by the mortgagor.

The onus would be placed on the mortgagor to take proceedings in court, if desirous of pressing in cases of default. In that event provision is made for the assessment of court costs against the mortgagor in no case to exceed \$25 on loans of \$3,000 in principal.

### IS GENERAL STAY

The moratorium would act as a general stay in all actions for recovery of mortgage principal, Mr. Pooley pointed out.

The precise provisions of the bill have yet to be explained in the House. First reading was accorded on introduction last evening. The act would operate until thirty days after the close of the next session, subject to termination by royal proclamation at any time.

Municipal leaders had been expecting a bill which would also apply on interest payments, fearing that tax collections will be much curtailed this year. The act will be known as the Mortgage and Purchasers' Relief Act, 1932, and will not apply to any obligation authority by municipal by-law, forms of debenture issues, stocks and trust deeds, insurance premiums, taxes and interest.



# LEGISLATION ABOLISHES PRESENT POLICE BOARD

**Amendment to Municipal Act Automatically Replaces Existing Commission With New Form of Administration—Royal Assent Expected on Monday, When Measure Will Be Effective**

## Action Followed Complaint By Magistrate of Victoria

VICTORIA may have its new police commission by Monday. This was indicated in the Legislature last evening when the House gave third reading and enactment to amendments to the Municipal Act, for which royal assent will be sought on Monday. Final reading was given without dissent. The bill will be one of a number which will be laid before Hon. J. W. Fordham Johnson at the next sitting of the House, on Monday afternoon, Attorney-General Pooley stated last night, if it is convenient to His Honor to attend at that time.

Royal assent would bring the statute into immediate effect in this city, automatically voiding the offices of the present police commissioners; and paving the way for immediate appointment of a judicial body, composed of the mayor, police magistrate, and a judge of the County Court.

### MAYOR TO ACT

Mayor David Leeming will continue as a member of the new board, while Judge P. S. Lampman and Magistrate George Jay will likely be the other appointees.

Besides applying in a mandatory way to Victoria, amendments in the Municipal Act may be evoked in any British Columbia municipality, outside of the charter city of Vancouver, on a petition from the municipal council to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. Due to stress of special circumstances, this process is to be shortened in Victoria, by instant operation of the plan, upon royal assent being given.

### ACTION ENDORSED

Rehearsing the facts of the Victoria Police Commission issue, Attorney-General Pooley disclosed to the House yesterday afternoon that immediate abolition of the present commission was fully concurred in by the City Council, which yesterday sent a letter of appreciation to him on the stand taken as Attorney-General, accompanied by a resolution of the Mayor and Aldermen approving the course proposed. The resolution was as follows:

"Resolved, that the Victoria City Council approves the action of Honorable R. H. Pooley, Attorney-General, in introducing legislation to provide for a change in the constitution of the Board of Police Commissioners."

The letter accompanying the resolution was from Mayor David Leeming, and read as follows:

"I am requested by the Victoria City Council to enclose herewith for your information a copy of a resolution in regard to the proposed change in the constitution of the Board of Police Commissioners, as passed at a meeting of the City Council sitting as public works committee, held this afternoon."

### THANKS ARE TENDERED

"I am also requested by the council to express to you the council's appreciation and thanks for the valuable assistance and co-operation from your office and the Provincial Police, enjoyed by the Victoria Police Department."

Mr. Pooley produced privately for the information of the Opposition, which had opposed the clause of the bill providing for the immediate abolition of the present Police Board in Victoria, copies of correspondence and reports from Victoria law enforcement officers. He explained again that it was proposed to give discretionary powers to British Columbia municipal councils to petition for repeal of elective police boards, and substitution of the three-man Ontario system, where a judge of the county court, the mayor or reeve, and the police magistrate would supplant the board in such cases.

While this would apply to all save private charter cities of the province, it was proposed, in view of the special circumstances in Victoria, to shorten the process and bring the new system into effect at once in this city, by substantive clauses in the bill to amend the Municipal Act. Victoria City Council officials and the Mayor, who is chairman of the present Police Commission, were in accord with this course, Mr. Pooley declared.

### HAD GOOD GROUNDS

Speaking to the circumstances in so far as Victoria is concerned, Mr. Pooley said he had good grounds for his action, supported by written statements from Magistrate Jay and Chief of Police Heatley.

"The two police commissioners I have referred to told the Chief not to issue the warrant in the Hospital Club membership case, and a private individual who shall be nameless walked in on the Chief and tried to bulldoze him," said Mr. Pooley.

"I ask the ex-Attorney-General of this Province what right has a police commissioner to say whether or not a warrant shall be issued, or for that matter, to take legal advice to see whether or not the matter in dispute is legal or illegal? The duties of a police commissioner have to do with the number and pay of the police, and their uniforms, etc., but not with law enforcement."

The Leader of the Opposition said he was not opposing anything other than the principle of abolishing an elective board without reference to the chief elective body in the area, the council. Victoria could do away with its present police board inside of twenty-four hours after the act passed, under the general provision for council petition.

### HAULED ON CARPET

It was at this stage that Mr. Pooley produced the written resolution of the city officials. Chief Heatley had been "hauled on the carpet by a private individual, in a private house," where two commissioners were present in the room and acquiesced. In an adjoining room there had been two persons then accused of bootlegging, who had also taken part in the affair, continued Mr. Pooley.

The private individual had said: "I took the coat off Fry's back and I will take it off yours," in remarks addressed to Chief Heatley in the presence of the two commissioners. Chief Heatley had walked out, reminding the commissioners that they could not interfere with the administration of the law, said Mr. Pooley.

In point of fact, said Mr. Pooley, the Criminal Code provided for a penitentiary term for anyone convicted of interfering with the administration of justice.

Commissioner McGavin, he continued, had had the effrontery to tell him, as Attorney-General, that he, McGavin, had "duties" to perform. He would say that Mr. McGavin had duties to perform, but not of the nature he appeared to think.

### COMPLAINT OF MAGISTRATE

Active complaint in the matter had come from Magistrate Jay, a man who held the respect and esteem of the city, and who for twenty-six years had been a leading light on the school board. Acting on this complaint, the Provincial Police had conducted the raid and had found ample evidence, he said. It was not a question of waiting until everyone agreed to the course, it was a question of meeting an existing condition, without unnecessary delay, he concluded.

### MEETING CALLED

"The City Council of Victoria has approved of what I have done and they want this to come into effect at once. Let me say, also, that I am informed the two commissioners have called a meeting with the alleged purpose of firing the chief. I have my duty to perform and I propose to do it," Mr. Pooley declared.

Hon. R. L. Maitland supported the stand taken by the Attorney-General and said that police commissions had for many years shown too great a tendency to interfere one way and another with the carrying out of the law. In Vancouver, while he had no quarrel with the present commission, he remembered times when boards in the past had been by turns good and bad, courageous and weak, full of dignity or the laughing stock of the community. He thought the change to the Ontario system in British Columbia was long overdue, and hoped the day would come when Vancouver, too, would elect to come in under the system.

A. M. Manson, K.C., former Attorney-General, interjected that he could draw the attention of the Attorney-General "to a place in Esquimalt where, up to a few hours ago, sweepstake tickets were being sold." Mr. Pooley said he would be glad to have the information and that if the Esquimalt authorities were not prepared to take action, the Province would certainly look into the matter.

Debate on the bill ended with wholehearted support for the measure from A. W. Gray, M.P.P., Mayor of New Westminster, who said that for years the Union of British Columbia Municipalities had suggested the Ontario plan. He thought council petition was a wise protection and would suggest that the terms of the Victoria resolution be made part of the bill.

## TO VALIDATE RELIEF COST

**Unemployment Relief Act  
Passes Second Reading,  
in Brief Debate**

Legislation to validate unemployment relief agreements entered into between the Province and the Dominion, and the Province and its municipalities, received third reading in the Legislature yesterday after brief but lively debate. Provision for future commitments for relief purposes, to an unstated amount, drew the chief fire from Opposition benches.

Hon. J. W. Jones explained the bill as necessary legislation to ratify agreements already undertaken in respect to past relief works, and to make future provision for the current year for the same purpose. No stated sum had been put in the bill, because it could not accurately be estimated just what sums would be required to be spent this year for unemployment relief, he said.

### ENDORSES ATTITUDE

Hon. W. A. McKenzie, chairman of the unemployment committee of the Cabinet, said he was opposed to the setting of any stated sum in this connection. It had been abundantly proved that where a definite mark was set all agencies combined to shoot at that mark, with the authorized sum as their justification. If the Government had listened to the importunings of all agencies last year, it would have been committed to the expenditure of \$200,000,000, he declared.

T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, concurred that legislation was necessary to ratify past agreements; but opposed the principle of "blank cheque" legislation. The Opposition would not offer any delay on the measure, if assured of an opportunity to discuss unemployment matters on the presentation of the report of the select committee on relief operations, shortly to be presented, he said.

### EXPORT MARKETS

British Columbia, suffering in common with all countries in the world, had been hardest affected in her export markets, on which the primary production of the province depended to a considerable extent, Hon. R. L. Maitland observed. Patience and good sense would point a way out of the difficulty; and nothing was to be gained by hurling anathemas, he concluded. Agriculture, at \$55,000,000 in 1931, had been a bright spot, and others were appearing on the surface.

Second reading carried, after a brief debate, in which Opposition members criticized outlays on relief undertakings last year, and predicted deficits in the current period.

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## PENSION LAWS ARE ADJUSTED

Case of Temporary Retirement Will Not Close Rights Under Plan

Amendments to the Superannuation Act and the Teachers' Pensions Act, to cover the case of temporary retirements from provincial and municipal services which may later be remedied when times improve and larger staffs become necessary, are now before the Legislature. Changes in the Teachers' Pensions Act have already been explained. In the superannuation bill, introduced in the House late Thursday, important variations in the act are planned.

The bill provides that reinstatement within a period of three years, together with repayment of any credits drawn from the scheme at the temporary retirement, will entitle an employee to continuation under the plan uninterrupted. This will be retroactive, to cover those already retired from public service under retrenchment policies.

Temporary reduction in civil service salaries will be ignored for the operation of the superannuation privileges, and contributory payments by employer and employee are to continue at normal levels, together with provision for bringing any such funds up to date.

### VANCOUVER EMPLOYEES

Employees of the Vancouver and District Joint Sewerage Board, and the Greater Vancouver Water District are now to be brought in under Section 42 of the Act, and Section 33 will apply to the staff of any provincial jail. Another section in the bill credits prior municipal or other public service in respect to those transferred to occupations, also under the act, of the sewerage and water boards.

To the securities in which funds of the superannuation scheme may be invested, it is proposed to add those of the Greater Vancouver Water District.

Continuation of pension unexpired at the death of the insured to a named beneficiary, and other changes hinging on this, are included in the bill.

## HEALERS' BILL IS THROWN OUT

Drugless Physicians Are Denied Control Law on Division of 24-9 Votes

Privately-introduced legislation to set up separate control and regulation of drugless physicians under their own officers was killed in the Legislature yesterday afternoon by a decisive majority of twenty-four to nine, in a division along non-party lines. The vote denied second reading to the measure, a public bill in the hands of William Dick (Conservative, Vancouver), thereby removing it from the order paper.

Messrs. Carson, Kingston, Berry, Kirk, Kargin, Alward, Heggie, Spencer, Walkem, Hayward, Maitland, Howe, Jones, Pooley, Hinchliffe, Macintosh, Mitchell, MacNaughton, Michael, Manson, Schofield, Beatty, Shelly, Atkinson and Loughheed voted against second reading of the bill.

Messrs. Loutet, Rutledge, Uphill, King, Pearson, MacPherson, R. MacKenzie, Dick and Pattullo would have accorded second reading. The measure defeated is distinct from that introduced on behalf of chiropractors, which did not come up at the afternoon sitting.

## MAY SUMMONS HEAD OF VANCOUVER BOARD TO JUSTIFY CHARGES

Members of Legislative Committee Indignant at Statements Made by President of Mainland Organization at Public Meeting—Col. Lister Expresses Feelings of Self and Colleagues

### Trade Board Leader Annoyed And Went Off Home in a Huff

CONSIDERATION is being given over the week-end, it was learned, to the possibility of summoning Harold Brown, president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, to appear before either the unemployment relief committee or the bar of the House to explain statements he made in an address to the Vancouver Real Estate Board in Vancouver on Friday. In this address, Mr. Brown is reported to have made charges of a most grave character, condemning the committee as a whole.

Members of the committee were most indignant on reading Vancouver papers featuring the allegations of the Board of Trade president, and recalled that Mr. Brown had appeared in Victoria to address the committee, and when it was found impossible to set aside other matters to arrange for a meeting at the appointed time, Mr. Brown left the city in a huff. Although a special gathering of the committee was held half an hour after the time agreed upon Mr. Brown did not appear.

### COL. LISTER'S STATEMENT

"After reading the article appearing in a Vancouver paper giving an account of this luncheon, I cannot see how Mr. Brown can say he does not wish to cast any reflection on any member of this committee. Personally I take this as a very serious reflection on my honor as a member of that committee and other members of the committee concur in what I say as applying to themselves." Colonel Fred Lister, M.P.P., declared last night.

Under an eight-column heading, reading "Trade Board Head Assails Probe," and a secondary heading reading, "Shameless Evasion and Distortion," Mr. Brown is quoted by a Vancouver paper as saying in connection with the investigations made by the unemployment committee that, "if any witness had told the truth he would have been crucified."

### PRESENT ONLY ONCE

Colonel Lister, in the presence of James Beatty, M.P.P., and other members of the committee, said:

"As a member of this committee I very much resent the statement of Harold Brown, president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, in a report of his statements made at the Real Estate Board luncheon in the Hotel Georgia.

"He states he 'sat in on some of the sessions' of the so-called probe. Mr. Brown may have spent a few minutes at one part of the session, but never sat in on some," he said.

"He states that he can draw his own conclusions from what he saw and heard, saying, 'If any witness had told the truth he would have been crucified.'"

"As a member of this committee I take very strong exception to this statement," repeated Colonel Lister. "Witnesses at all times were at liberty to make any statement they wished without any curb being put upon them."

### TELEPHONED BROWN

"After reading this statement of Mr. Brown's this evening I telephoned Mr. Brown in Vancouver and asked him for an explanation of his statements. He said he believed his statements were correct, but he did not wish to cast any reflection on any member of the committee regardless of his political color."

It was following this that Colonel Lister said that he felt Mr. Brown had cast a reflection upon his honor as a member of the committee.

It was also learned that Mr. Brown came to Victoria, as the responsible head of his organization, the Vancouver Board of Trade, to address the committee. It was impossible for the members of the

committee to meet him at the arranged time, owing to important matters of legislative concern. Mr. Brown could not find it convenient to fit his time to that of the committee and went off home without appearing in person before the committee, but left a written brief. In view of the circumstances, committee members are indignant that a man, representing such an important organization as the Vancouver Board of Trade, who could not wait to present the views of that organization to the Legislature, should find time to make a public address condemning some six weeks of painstaking effort by a committee representative of the whole House. Mr. Brown, it is stated, only spent about six hours in Victoria between boats, and then left in some annoyance by reason of the members not being able to accommodate him.

### Invitation Will Be Extended to Prince

Unanimous and hearty approval has been given by the British Columbia Legislature to a motion by A. W. Gray (Lib., New Westminster) that an invitation be extended through proper State channels to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to attend the Imperial Economic Conference, to be held at Ottawa in July, as the first good-will trade ambassador in the British Commonwealth of Nations.

**Bills Are Passed**—British Columbia's new oil and natural gas law passed through its final stages in the Legislature Friday afternoon, and now waits only Royal assent. A similar course was taken with routine amendments with the Agricultural Act, dealing with pest control. Six other bills were advanced a stage, including the police commission changes, elsewhere recorded.

## SUPPLY GRANT PASSES HOUSE

B.C. Legislature Ratifies Expenditures Amounting to \$24,695,671

Granting of supply to the needs of His Majesty for public services in British Columbia, was effected by the Legislature on Friday evening, in the sum of \$24,695,671 for the current fiscal year. Supplementary estimates at \$314,652 for the year 1931-32, and \$65,550 for 1930-31 were added, when third reading and enactment was given to the main supply bill.

The last vote in the estimates, for Legislative indemnities and sessional costs, was \$114,520; members' sessional indemnities being cut to \$96,270 in the aggregate, compared to \$106,300 last year. This is a reduction of \$200 a year for each member, from \$2,000 to \$1,800.

In a brisk session, the House considered the new Income Tax Act, contained in twenty-seven pages and sixty-three sections; gave third reading to the Unemployment Relief Act; and advanced other budgetary measures, including division of municipal costs of social services, as already outlined by Hon. J. W. Jones.

### WILL SURVEY PENSIONS

Speaking to amendments to the Mothers' Pensions Act, Hon. S. L. Howe, Provincial Secretary, said it was proposed to set in motion immediate investigation of allowances being granted under the act, consequent on irregularities outlined by the report of the Canadian Council on Child and Family Welfare.

It was the express intention of the Government that no pension allowance would be reduced, but also it was proposed to see that the money was being used only in cases where it was genuinely needed.

In municipalities where the cost of allowances is less than \$5,000 a year, the Province will bear the whole cost. Pension provision was a worthy one, and better results would come from a check-up on its operation, he concluded, without apportioning blame for the past.

## FOURTH SYSTEM WILL BE TRIED

Elective Police Commission Inaugurated in 1918, City Records Reveal

Victoria probably will enter upon its fourth system of police administration on Monday, when it is expected that royal assent to a bill to abolish the present elective board will be given by Hon. J. W. Fordham Johnson, Lieutenant-Governor.

This will be the first time that Victoria has had the Ontario system of police administration, namely, a board comprising the Mayor, police magistrate and a county court judge.

The first system adopted by the city was in 1896, when the commission consisted of the Mayor, the police magistrate and an appointee named by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. This system was retained until 1898, when the legisla-

tion was changed to provide a commission consisting of the Mayor and two appointees named by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

It was not until 1918 that legislation was enacted to permit an elective body. R. S. Day and P. M. Linklater were the first two commissioners elected in Victoria.

Now the system is expected to change on Monday to a nonelective body with the Mayor as chairman.



## B.C. MINISTER IS AT OTTAWA

Hon. R. W. Bruhn Is Taking  
Part in Dominion Con-  
ference on Relief

Hon. R. W. Bruhn, acting as the representative of the British Columbia Government at the unemployment relief conference called by Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, at Ottawa, arrived at the Federal Capital on Friday, in time for the conference opening yesterday.

The British Columbia Minister of Public Works took with him details of the operation of the national relief scheme in this province for the last two years and representations to be advanced on behalf of the British Columbia Government.

While no official statement has been issued on the point, it is understood that British Columbia will seek a clear-cut understanding on action to stop the flow of transients to the Coast from other provinces in Canada.

### UNEMPLOYED MEN

More than 11,000 unemployed men entered British Columbia in twelve months last year, seriously confusing all fixed arrangements for the support of those in genuine need. Testifying before the select committee on unemployment recently, Mr. Bruhn made this clear, and said in his opinion steps would have to be taken to stay this shifting of idle men from province to province.

Also touching on unemployment, the select committee of the British Columbia Legislature will meet here on Monday morning to consider its report to the House, after twenty hearings and some sixty hours of evidence and discussion in committee.

## GOVERNMENT IS UPHELD IN VOTE

Three Divisions on Important  
Changes in Policy  
Support Ministry

Three divisions were called in the Legislature yesterday afternoon, as a welcome surcease from extended argument on second reading of bills with a revenue outlook. In the bill to hand on to municipalities a reasonable part of institutional costs, the Government was supported 28-11. A companion measure assessing a part of the cost of mothers' pensions on civic communities, passed second reading by 28-12.

Division on second reading of the redistribution measure, by way of amendment to the Constitution Act, was polled at 27-12, after considerable debate, which is elsewhere recorded. Reduction in legislative members' indemnities from \$2,000 to \$1,800, and reduction of the total membership of the House from forty-eight to forty-seven are the chief effects of the bill.

Second reading of the bill dealing with the liability of municipalities for a share of institutional costs was carried on straight party lines. J. A. Louflet (Cons., North Vancouver), voted with the Opposition against the change in the Mothers' Pensions Act, on an otherwise straight party poll.

Dr. L. E. Borden (Cons., Nelson), and Reginald Hayward (Cons., Victoria), voted with the Opposition on the redistribution measure; Dr. Borden on the ground that he could not agree with changes in the Nelson-Creston area, and Mr. Hayward on the general ground that not sufficient reduction was made in the total membership of the House.

## REDISTRIBUTION UNDER DEBATE

Nonparty Business Govern-  
ment Held to Be No Solu-  
tion of Present Ills

With two invitations from the Opposition to leave the constitution of the British Columbia Legislature as it is, with the single exception of the new seat proposed for the Peace River district, and general comment shared in by both sides against the futility of "business" government by any nonparty movement, redistribution was debated in the House yesterday. The Government was sustained on second reading of the bill, amending the Constitution Act, by 27-12, after a two-hour debate.

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, who piloted the bill, explained it had been found almost impossible to reduce the present membership of the House in the face of a population increase of nearly 100,000 people, and the scattered population of huge areas that must be given a voice in the Legislature. A total reduction of one seat, after adding the new seat in Peace River, was the best that could be accomplished, he said.

Speaking for the Opposition, T. D. Pattullo held out no olive branch to those who are pressing for a form of "business" government, or a nonparty movement. Public opinion was not sufficiently informed on the question of legislative representation, he declared. Reduction of the House to some of the limits that these agencies had proposed would mean government by a bureaucracy of the Civil Service, and would not be in the public interest.

British Columbia had two well defined classes of districts, including large urban centres with dense population, and territorially huge areas, with often a diversity of commercial interest. It was far more than a mathematical problem to give due voice to such areas, he continued.

Mr. Pattullo said he would have welcomed appointment of a legislative committee to have advised on redistribution, as had been done in 1923. Under this course the difficulties faced by the Legislature could have been made obvious to the public.

"As for nonparty Governments, we had then in the days prior to the late Sir Richard McBride, and they were in constant turmoil, due to the personal ambition of those who took part in such ministries. When Sir Richard formed the first party Government, the country was faced with a grave situation, and a meeting of bankers was called to take steps to prevent the Province from defaulting on its obligation. The banks at that day advanced \$1,000,000 to the party Government then formed under Sir Richard McBride," Mr. Pattullo stated.

### MANY SUCH ATTEMPTS

The Leader of the Opposition recalled that there had been six or seven ministries in the course of a few years, under the nonparty plan, some lasting only a few months, and none longer than two or three years. It became notoriously a question of the "ins" and the "outs," and a degree of unstable administration of public affairs had been the only result, he declared.

"I am just as anxious as anyone for the good Government of British Columbia, but we have had sufficient examples of a "business" Government, and no other comment is necessary," Mr. Pattullo stated. In closing, he regretted the Government's intention to abolish Columbia, and to throw Alberni in with Nanaimo; but concurred in the new seat for the Peace River.

### HISTORY RECALLED

Thomas King, Liberal Member for Columbia, regretted the elimination of his riding, and traced its settlement history back to 1807, when David Thompson had forced his way down the Columbia, with the era of rail construction and gold development that successively followed in later years. As to the actual change made, the division of Columbia between two adjacent ridings, he believed this would not work out satisfactorily, by reason of the range of mountains in between.

Dr. L. E. Borden (Conservative, Nelson) entered formal protest to the bill, on the ground of the union of Creston and Nelson, which, he said, would be resented in those areas. Vancouver, he charged, had swayed the judgment of the Government, in demanding one more seat, giving nine in the greater Mainland area. Out of a total reduction of one in the House, the Kootenay areas would lose two seats, he said, in conclusion.

### COL. LISTER CONCURS

Col. Fred Lister (Conservative, Creston) concurred. Coast areas had exercised an unfair influence in the matter of redistribution, he declared. The need of country areas was the greater by reason of the isolation and scattered nature of the population.

J. W. Berry (Conservative, Delta) supported the bill, saying the addition of part of Richmond to his territory was welcome. He was in agreement with the Leader of the Opposition that the membership of the House could not well be reduced, and concurred in the new seat for the Peace area.

Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., defended Vancouver, and said its claims had been very moderate in this instance. Its population had increased 50 per cent in the last decade and no pressure had been brought on the ground of such increase. Country Members should not forget that in taxation Victoria and Vancouver paid their full share.

### NO SERIOUS TROUBLE

On the general question of party government, Mr. Maitland said that British Columbia had been freer since Confederation from any charge of graft, or corruption in public life than any other province in the Dominion. It was an uninformed view that held that non-party government would improve anything. The party system was by no means perfect but the best yet found under British practice for more than a hundred years. Government was not, and should never become, a cold-blooded matter of dollars and cents, he concluded.

L. A. Hanna (Liberal, Alberni) entered vigorous protest against the elision of his seat with that of Nanaimo. There was not even a community of interest to justify this course, and the whole West Coast section from the canal to the top of the Island would be left in a neglected state, he argued. Capt. George Vancouver and many other famous pioneering navigators had put into the Sound, and the port had become the third largest in British Columbia in point of lumber shipments handled.

J. W. Cornett (Conservative, South Vancouver) regretted the passing of that constituency, but said he would support the bill. Division followed after some further debate. The House divided on party lines, with Dr. Borden and Mr. Hayward voting against the measure with the Opposition. Mr. Hayward had previously explained that he believed a good deal more cutting could have been done and Victoria Members had paved the way by offering to forego two seats. Second reading carried, on division.

## TREASURY IS TO CONTROL

Hon. J. W. Jones Introduces  
Bill Providing Exacting  
Safeguards

As indicated in his budget, Hon. J. W. Jones introduced in the Legislature yesterday a bill to bring about treasury control in public expenditures by the British Columbia Government, contained in amendments to the Revenue Act, which received first reading. The support of the bill is to give power to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council to make whatever regulations are necessary to insure full treasury control, presumably under a standing sub-committee of the Cabinet.

### SPECIFIC CLAUSES GIVE POWER:

(a) To provide for the comparative checking of current collections and expenditures, and for regulating the increase or reduction of authorized expenditures on the basis of actual collections.

### SAFEGUARDS LISTED

(b) To provide safeguards of expenditure, based on the consent of the Department of Finance as well as the department in charge of the service in question, having regard to the state of the revenue and the general financial situation existing from time to time.

(c) To prevent overcommitment in respect of any appropriation of the Legislature, or in respect of any sum borrowed or to be borrowed by the Minister of Finance, and to prevent undue expenditure, having regard to the unexpired portion of the expenditure period intended to be covered by any appropriation or borrowing.

### DOUBLE CHECK MOOTED

The bill would place wide powers in the hands of the Minister of Finance, and any sub-committee of the Cabinet that was decided upon to conduct its regulations. It provides for what amounts to a clear-traffic signal from the Controller-General's office before any expenditure can be made, to show that the money is available, voted for the purpose, and rightly to be expended in regard to all contingent circumstances. All expenditures made to meet emergent needs would have to be reported to the Controller-General immediately.

Introduction of the bill is being taken as another indication that the Government intends to place the tightest possible watch on expenditures this year, on a budget that is nearly \$5,000,000 less than appropriations of last year.

## WILL STIMULATE RADIUM LOCATING

Crown Interest May Be Reduced  
to 10 Per Cent With \$5,000  
Reward

Exploration and discovery of radium in British Columbia deposits of pitchblende or otherwise would be stimulated by a material reduction from 50 to 10 per cent, of the percentage of such discoveries taken by the Crown, through a bill introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. W. A. McKenzie.

The Minister of Mines explained that the existing regulations call for the transfer of a half interest of all radium discovered to the Crown. It is proposed to reduce this to an interest of 10 per cent. The existing reward of \$5,000 for the discovery of radium in British Columbia ores is repeated in the new bill.

Other terms in the measure would confer on the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council the right to bring radium-bearing ore lands under reserve, and to regulate their conservation, purchase or development. The bill received first reading.

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# Vancouver Trade Board Head Admits Criticism Was Founded on Hearsay

**Harold Brown Confesses to Legislative Committee That He Did Not Attend Sitzings Which He Described Luridly in Address in Vancouver —Says Nothing Personal Meant**

APPEARING at the request of the Legislative Committee on Unemployment yesterday, Harold Brown, President of the Vancouver Board of Trade, admitted freely that he had not attended one of the meetings of the committee which he had publicly criticized before a Vancouver audience last week. He declared he had been misreported in any utterance that sought to impugn the personal character of members of the committee, and had passed no such strictures in his remarks in Vancouver. To this extent he would apologize.

Making clear his attitude on the whole affair, Mr. Brown said that he was without politics, and deplored what he considered a political inquiry at a time of grave crisis, when the confidence of the public was at stake. He had followed the course of the inquiry closely, and had obtained, from some source he declined to disclose, a transcript of the evidence. On this he had based his criticism of the general character of the inquiry, which was without the slightest personal feeling, he assured the committee.

## NO REFLECTION INTENDED

Going further, Mr. Brown said he did not believe in the party system of government, and was in sympathy with a movement to have an independent commission established to advise the Government in such times as these. He had given his personal views throughout, and had not spoken as the head of the Vancouver Board of Trade, he affirmed. He proposed to stick entirely to his statements, saving where any remarks of his had been interpreted as a reflection on the members of the committee.

Taxed with a news report which said he had referred to "the spectacle of shameful evasion," and his belief that "if any witnesses had sought to speak the truth before the committee he would have been crucified"; Mr. Brown explained that it was his view that men in the Government employ would not risk their employment by being frank on such an inquiry. He would not say that anyone before the committee had not told the truth, but was of the impression that other witnesses should have been called, including a Mr. Brian, a timekeeper at one of the camps, who appeared in his office and had later sought to obtain a hearing before the panel.

## "IN A RADIO SENSE"

Asked what was meant by the reported statement that he "had sat in" at sittings of the committee, Mr. Brown explained he had intended to convey that he "had listened in, in a radio sense," and had followed the inquiry from private information. He agreed that he had filed a brief with the committee, and had arranged to be heard in evidence, only was denied this through pressure of his own affairs.

"I wish to give credit to the committee to the fullest possible extent, for seeking to do its duty. I think the members are carrying out their duties to the best of their ability. I was, however, referring to the political character of the committee, and I feel very deeply that such an inquiry is futile, to get at the facts," Mr. Brown continued.

Press reports had cited him as saying he had "witnessed a spectacle of distortion of the truth," H. D. Twigg, chairman, reminded Mr. Brown, asking his explanation on this point.

Mr. Brown again repeated that he had not attended personally any of the meetings of the committee, but had "listened in, in a radio sense," to what was going on. He had been furnished with a transcript of the evidence, but would decline to say how he obtained that record.

## REMARKS WERE GENERAL

Asked for any particulars of distortion, untruths, or other irregularities that he could now draw to the attention of the committee, Mr. Brown said he had none to offer. He had addressed his whole remarks in a general sense. There was a fixed impression in a part of the public mind that there had been waste and extravagance in the camps, and so far as he was aware, this impression had not been satisfactorily cleared up.

"We do know," he said, "that there was extravagant waste in the camps."

Mr. Twigg—I suggest to you, Mr. Brown, that you formed your opinion on gossip.

Mr. Brown—I do not gossip. J. A. Loutet—The committee is trying to get at the real evidence. Have you any evidence to offer?

Mr. Brown—My point is you cannot get at the evidence in a political inquiry. Mr. Brian, a timekeeper at one of the North Okanagan camps, hung around here for three weeks, and was not called. I formed my opinion on the whole atmosphere of the inquiry.

## WAS NOT PRESENT

Mr. Twigg—Can you say that, when you were not here, to get the atmosphere of the inquiry? Can you give us any details of evidence as to waste in the camps? For instance, you are quoted as saying that "there was a careful plan of distorting the truth." What did you mean by that?

Mr. Brown explained that he had not sought to apply the criticism to any member of the committee, its counsel, or to the committee as a whole. The distortion lay in the evidence, he averred, but declined

to give the name of any particular witness.

T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, interjected that he agreed entirely with Mr. Brown, and a crossfire between Liberal and Conservative members followed, in which Mr. Pattullo was told by the chairman that he was "acting like a child of sixteen." Mr. Pattullo rejoined that the chairman could "take that double."

Mr. Brown resumed. He explained that with his trained mentality he had followed the whole course of the inquiry, through the transcript of evidence, and had formed his conclusions on private information as well. His conclusions were not political, and not applied in any sense as a criticism of any member of the committee, other than the political character of the whole investigation.

He saw ahead difficult times, amounting to a crisis, and believed that public confidence was being lost by the treatment given to the whole issue.

## REPUTABLE WITNESSES

Mr. Twigg reminded Mr. Brown that representations had been laid before the committee, either in briefs or in person, by the Vancouver Board of Trade, Victoria Chamber of Commerce, Canadian Manufacturers' Association, Trades and Labor Councils, the Mayors or Aldermen of Vancouver, Victoria, and other witnesses, together with three members of the Cabinet, including the Ministers of Finance, Works, and Mines. Would Mr. Brown say these witnesses were conspiring to any plan to distort the evidence?

Witness replied his remarks were intended as general, and would not apply to these witnesses.

T. D. Pattullo, A. M. Manson and Dr. W. H. Sutherland, Liberal committeemen, said they fully agreed with the criticisms made by Mr. Brown.

Colonel Fred Lister, James H. Beatty, J. A. Loutet, W. R. Rutledge and J. W. Berry, on the Government side, declared they could not understand how anyone who had not attended a single meeting of the inquiry, would be competent to judge of its course. Mr. Brown repeated that he "had listened in, in a radio sense," to the inquiry, and had been given access to a transcript of the evidence.

## AGAINST PARTY RULE

Mr. Twigg—Are you one of the gentlemen in Vancouver who are desirous of doing away with party Government?

Mr. Brown—I am. I am concerned with the gravity of the crisis, and I want the people to have a share in the handling of the matter. We must not even have the suggestion of extravagance. There was more than a suggestion that prices were paid for supplies in excess of what was right, and this has not been satisfactorily answered by the evidence.

Witness was under questioning for some further time, repeating what he had said before.

Mr. Pattullo—The committee has crucified Mr. Brown.

Mr. Twigg—Do you consider that you have been crucified, Mr. Brown?

Mr. Brown—Not at all. Politics do not enter into it at all with me. In my remarks I was referring equally to both sides of the House, to members on the committee from both sides. It all confirms my belief that a parliamentary inquiry cannot get at the core of the matter. I am indebted to you for your kindness, and to Mr. Pattullo for the humor of the situation.

The committee closed its public hearing finally, after E. D. Johnson, deputy minister of finance, had been recalled to tell of the arrival on April 5 of \$500,000 from Ottawa to bring prior records up to date.

After the press and public had retired, the committee considered the report that will be made to the Legislature. After hearing the report read, the leader of the Opposition asserted the terms of the inquiry had not been carried out, and left the room, accompanied by Dr. W. H. Sutherland, A. M. Manson, K.C., stayed with the committee to the close of its deliberations.

# VOTERS' LISTS TO BE RENEWED

**B.C. Legislature Makes Good Progress on Many Bills at Evening Session**

Provincial voters' lists in Victoria and Vancouver may have to be renewed, Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe told the Legislature last evening, when amendments to the Provincial Elections Act were completed in committee and the House made good progress on a number of bills in committee stage.

Changes in the Special Revenue Tax Act, the Mothers' Pension Act and the Medical Act, as already outlined, were given third readings and enacted. Proposed treasury control regulations were read a second time. The new half-cent tax on fuel oil was also given second reading.

Giving further consideration to redistribution, the House voted to call the new combined constituency of Nelson and Creston "Nelson-Creston," and "Columbia-Revelstoke" was set as the name of the new electoral area in the latter ridings.

Hon. J. W. Jones explained that the only operation of the special revenue tax this year will be in respect to wage deductions which should have been made last year.

Tom Uphill (Labor, Fernie) was assured, during discussion of the Game Act, that miners and others needing to fish for food would not be charged the \$1 angling licence, but would be given permits by the game commissioner.



Tuesday, April 12, 1932.

## City Police Board Automatically Put Out of Commission

Royal Assent to 1932 Amendments to Municipal Act Places Important Rights at Disposal of City and District Councils

CURRENT amendments to the British Columbia Municipal Act, embodying important taxation rights for city councils, and the repeal in so far as Victoria is concerned of the present Police Board, became law yesterday, when royal assent to the measure was given by the Lieutenant-Governor. Hon. J. W. Fordham Johnson, attended by his aides from Government House, arrived shortly before 3 o'clock and left immediately after assenting to the bill in the name of His Majesty.

The passage of the act automatically wipes out the present elective police board at Victoria, and leaves the way open for the immediate appointment of the three-man board along lines used for some years in Ontario and Alberta. The composition of the board is expected to include Mayor David Leeming, Magistrate George Jay and one of the two judges in the Victoria County Court area. In a permissive sense, the same system is now open to all British Columbia municipalities, saving Vancouver, which operates on a private charter.

Other sections in the act as now amended are of equal import to city councils throughout the province, comprising the permissive increase from twenty to thirty-five mills in taxation for general purposes; and the increase of taxable improvements to cover 75 per cent of their assessment.

General clauses in the bill provide for commission government of any municipality that may be pressed temporarily beyond its ability to meet its obligations, though this contingency is not expected to arise.

## CHIROPRACTOR BILL DEFEATED

Measure Fails of Majority by Three When Final Test Comes in House

Chiropractors lost their fight for self-control under a board of their own management, when a bill to give these rights was defeated in committee of the Legislature yesterday afternoon. The end came suddenly, after the measure had weathered a close vote on second reading earlier in the week, and a second move to kill the bill at the start of proceedings yesterday.

Two divisions, one standing vote, and several shows of hands were taken during the brief committee consideration of the measure, with Thomas King (Lib., Columbia), in the chair. The decisive vote, which instructed the committee to rise without report, thereby killing the bill, was twenty to eighteen in favor of this course.

Voting in favor of the defeat of the bill were Messrs. Fitzsimmons, Hanna, MacPherson, Dick, Kingston, Berry, Borden, Kirk, Wrinch, Kergin, Sutherland, Pattullo, A. M. Manson, Alward, Spencer, Walkem, Michell, MacNaughton, Schofield and Beatty.

Voting against the abandonment in committee were Messrs. Loutet, Carson, R. Mackenzie, Rutledge, Uphill, Gray, Hayward, Twigg, Maitland, Howe, Jones, Tolmie, Pooley, Cornett, Shelly, Atkinson, Lougheed and W. A. McKenzie.

### SEVERAL DIVISIONS

The earlier vote had been twenty-one to sixteen in defeat of a motion to rise without report, on the same lines; only with J. R. Michell (Cons., Kamloops), and James Fitzsimmons (Cons., Kaslo-Slocan), voting in support of this motion, joined by Michael Manson (Cons., Mackenzie), who was not in the House on the second division.

As soon as the bill was called in committee, William Dick (Cons., Vancouver), moved the committee rise without report. H. D. Twigg (Cons., Victoria), chief supporter of the chiropractors' bill last year and this, protested this course, and called for the first division, which prolonged the life of the bill.

Tom Uphill (Labor, Fernie), moved to insert a general clause which would have allowed all drugless healers to practice by virtue of

the bill. This was defeated by a standing vote of twenty to nine, and the section passed. The next section in the bill carried, seventeen to fourteen, on another show of hands. James H. Beatty (Cons., Victoria), moved to amend the wording of the following section, the proposed change being defeated, twenty to ten, on a show of hands, and the section passing.

The bill had been virtually completed in committee, when A. M. Manson, K.C. (Lib., Omineca), moved that the committee rise without report. Mr. Twigg called for a division, which showed twenty to eighteen in support of the Manson

motion. This vote was the official demise of the bill.

By a final decision late last evening, the Legislature declined to reopen the chiropractors' bill, on a division 20-19 negating a motion by H. D. Twigg that the bill be restored to the order paper. The vote was the death knell of the bill at this session.

## POLICE MOVE DISAPPROVED

Public Meeting Protests Change in City's Law Enforcement Department

Resolutions expressing disapproval of the change of administration of Victoria's police department from an elective board to one consisting of the Mayor, Police Magistrate, and a County Court Judge, were passed at a public meeting held last night at the Victoria City Temple and attended by approximately 1,200 citizens.

The resolutions are as follows: "That this meeting expresses its strong disapproval of the vote cast by the four city members of the Legislature in the matter of the amendment to the Municipal Act as it affects the Police Commission of this city, and urging that such action deprives our citizens of their franchise rights, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Hon. R. H. Pooley and the four city members of the Legislature."

### ASK FOR HEARING

"Whereas, the Victoria City Council has expressed its approval of the action of the Provincial Legislature in the matter of the dismissal of the Police Commission of this city without a hearing;

"Therefore be it resolved, that this meeting do hereby register its protest and urges that in justice to the dismissed Police Commissioners the latter be given a hearing regarding the grave implications which have caused them to be ousted from office, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the City Council."

Both resolutions were carried without a dissenting vote.

Rev. Dr. Clem Davies was the chairman for the meeting, and addressed the gathering before introducing the two other speakers, E. B. Andros and Captain H. S. Thain. The speakers criticized the actions of the Government in enacting legislation to do away with the elective form of police commission without first giving the people of Victoria an opportunity to express by the ballot their desires.

### RIGHTS OF PEOPLE

While the meeting was called ostensibly to deal with the "Police Commission matter" and the people's rights, there was an occasional outburst of bitter criticism against administrative measures and against governments of the day. E. B. Andros said that the bill creating a new form of police commission was ill-advised, and he felt that an injustice had been done to the people of Victoria. Captain Thain said the action of the Legislature was an arbitrary one, and one that struck at the fundamental rights of the people of the British Empire.

All speakers were given an attentive hearing, and the applause was generous throughout. Dr. Davies, as chairman, kept the gathering in good humor with epigrams and with humorous sidelights and references to officialdom in the capital city calculated to set ears tingling. In his open criticism, he spared neither Government nor City Council, and made a strong plea for the maintenance of the rights of the people of the city, and added he considered the recent change in the administration of the police department an insult to the people of Victoria whom, he said, "had not been given equal rights with the Municipality of Esquimalt or any other town or hamlet in the Province of British Columbia."

Following adoption of the two main resolutions, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 o'clock with the singing of the National Anthem.

Wednesday, April 13, 1932.

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# Suggestions on Unemployment Filed in House

**Legislative Committee Makes Report After Exhaustive Study of Situation—Finds That Ottawa Owes B.C. More Than \$2,000,000 Under Agreements—Many Suggestions**

**S**TRONG exception to continuation of direct relief as a general means of aid during the unemployment period; establishment of a permanent Federal board for the handling of the problem of unemployment; encouragement of land settlement; early construction of the Peace River outlet; consolidation of effort to make a success of the Imperial Conference, and the establishment of a research bureau, are among the recommendations made by the legislative committee on unemployment filed in the Legislature last night.

The committee held twenty-one sittings and examined a large number of witnesses. A great mass of detail was examined in connection with the financial relationship between the Dominion and the Province, and it was found that the Dominion owes to the Province at the present time on unemployment account a sum of more than \$2,000,000. It was also stated that the Province is paying interest on money advanced by the Federal Government which includes sums owing by the Dominion, and it is recommended that an effort be made to secure a rebate on this account.

## GENERAL SUGGESTIONS

The recommendations appended to the lengthy report submitted were:

**Effects of Direct Relief**—That direct relief, being wasteful and demoralizing in its effects, should, as far as possible, be discontinued in favor of work for which some remuneration should be given.

**Municipalities**—Without overlooking the responsibility of municipalities to care for their destitute cases, your committee feels that the magnitude of the present demands upon their taxable resources requires investigation, with a view to deciding whether such responsibilities under existing unemployment conditions should not be lessened.

## PROVINCE SADDLED

**Transients**—Your committee finds that many thousands of men have migrated to British Columbia from other provinces. The Province has been saddled with 50 per cent of the direct expense in caring for these men under unemployment relief, the Dominion assuming the other one-half, and private citizens and municipalities have been saddled with 100 per cent of the

care of men who have not registered or been eligible for relief. In addition, great expense has been entailed in creating organizations within the province to handle these transients.

Your committee is of the opinion that the responsibility for the care of these men rests with the provinces of origin and the Dominion, and that steps should be taken to restrict the flow of such men over the provincial boundary during seasons of unemployment, unless arrangements can be made with the Dominion and the other provinces to assume the entire cost of their maintenance.

## HEAVY STRAIN

Your committee is of opinion that, had this Province been faced only with the problem of its own unemployed people, the drain on its treasury, though heavy, could have been met, but when added to this is an army estimated at between 11,000 and 12,000 persons, the strain put upon the resources of the Province and its municipalities is almost more than they can bear, and some special allowances should be made to relieve a situation due more to British Columbia's geographical position and climatic advantages than to any other apparent cause.

**Women**—That the question of unemployed women with dependents should receive more attention.

## NATIONAL BOARD

**Board to Handle Unemployed Problem**—That, owing to the nation-wide character of the unemployment problem, it is a national question which should be placed in charge of some permanent board for direction, management and control. The board to have the fullest powers to create co-ordination between the Dominion and the Provinces, and through the latter with the municipalities.

**Land Settlement**—That land settlement for those who are land-minded and suited to such a life should be encouraged by making the acquisition of land as reasonable as possible.

**Young Men**—That young men from eighteen to twenty-five, and selected cases over that age, be placed in camps in agricultural areas and taught: (a) To work; (b) to farm; (c) citizenship.

Your committee recommends that the Department of Agriculture, the experimental farms and the University of British Columbia supply instructors, and, as the records of these men indicate that they are suited to agricultural pursuits, that tracts of reasonable size be found for them and they be settled thereon, with a minimum of expense and liability of the Province and to the men themselves.

## PEACE OUTLET

**Colonization**—That negotiations be opened with the Dominion Government with a view to a start on the Peace River outlet and thus give employment to many men. That investigation should be made to the end that suitable men engaged upon such work would be assisted to a reasonable extent in taking up land in the Peace River district.

**Active Militia**—That the amount payable for relief to regularly enrolled members of the non-permanent active militia who are unemployed be administered, if so desired, through their respective units; your committee being of opinion that there is grave danger of a complete breakup of these units if the enlisted men are housed in camps and unable to continue connection with their regiments. From the evidence adduced, your committee is satisfied that suitable work can be found for them regimentally.

## UNWISE ECONOMY

**Revenue-Producing Works**—That money and labor expended upon nonrevenue-producing works is at the present time economically unsound, and that an effort should be made to set men to work in trades to which they are trained and accustomed by enlisting the advice and assistance of the heads of industries, and, if necessary, by advancing money on loan to basic, established industries normally employing a large number of men, to enable these industries to reach export markets.

**Imperial Conference**—That arrangements should be made for representatives of the basic industries of British Columbia to attend the Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa as observers to advise the Government regarding the possibilities of capturing a portion of Empire markets. Your committee is of opinion that even moderate success in this respect would give employment to many thousands of men.

## ENCOURAGE TRADE

**Trade**—That the Government continue to use every means to encourage efforts on the part of business men of British Columbia to resuscitate and enlarge the development of our provincial and inter-provincial trade, and, further, to lend every possible assistance to recover that percentage of export trade on which this province so materially depends, by the extension of markets for its products.

**Research Board**—Probably no province in Canada has resources more diversified than British Columbia. The timber, mineral, agricultural and fishing industries are of inestimable importance. A high percentage of farm products, much of which can be produced economically in this province, is imported from other provinces and from foreign countries. The markets for fish are much contracted and the price unsatisfactory. Our timber and mining industries are likewise suffering severely from the existing depression.

With a view to an increase of employment in these industries and, if deemed advisable by the Dominion Research Board, to assist that body in its objects, your committee suggests that a provincial advisory committee be created, consisting of those versed in finance, transportation, industry and scientific research in the province, who will give their services voluntarily, and who will collect data and information generally on the utilization of the resources of the province, and who will, from time to time, advise the Government and business community regarding their findings.

## FINANCIAL SITUATION

A summary of Provincial works and direct relief is set out in the report as follows:

Certificates were filed with Ottawa up to March 31, 1932, for expenditures as follows:

Provincial works .....	\$2,986,081.68
Provincial direct relief .....	466,980.99
Municipal direct relief (less municipal share) .....	478,450.64

Total .....

Of which the Dominion's share, payable to the Province, is \$1,965,755.97, and the Provincial share to be loaned by the Dominion to the Province is \$1,965,757.54.

On account of the Dominion's share of \$1,965,755.97, there has been

paid and advanced to the Province from time to time the following sums:

Paid on account direct relief certificates .....	\$ 114,631.97
Advanced on Treasury bill bearing interest (pending approval of certificates) .....	1,300,000.00
Advanced without interest (pending approval of certificates) .....	500,000.00

.....

Dominion's share as above ..

Balance due to Province on account Dominion's share ..

Add Provincial share to be loaned by the Dominion ....

.....

Total balance due to Province on account Provincial works and direct relief ..

.....

In other words, the Province has expended on Provincial works and direct relief the sum of \$3,931,513.51, and has received from the Dominion \$1,914,631.97, leaving the sum of \$2,016,881.54 still to be financed by the Dominion under the arrangement mentioned. Such portion of said balance payable by the Do-

minion as is applicable to the Provincial share of said works and direct relief will be secured to the Dominion by Provincial Treasury bills.

## OLD AGE PENSIONS

In addition to the above sum of \$2,016,881.54, there is due by the Dominion to the Province the sum of \$182,752.12, the Dominion's proportion of old age pensions for the quarter ended December 31, 1931. The evidence, and also the report of the Dominion director of unemployment relief, dated March 1, 1932, indicate that the said sum of \$182,752.12 has been credited against moneys advanced by the Dominion under P.C. 102 aforesaid, being an advance of \$500,000 under the provisions of the Unemployment and Farm Relief Act, 1931, on account of large disbursements already made by the Province under the provisions of the Unemployment and Farm Relief Act, 1931, on account of large disbursements already made by the Province under the provisions of the said agreement dated August 19, 1931.

The Dominion's share of old age pensions is a statutory vote, payable under the terms of the Old Age Pensions Act (Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, Chapter 156) and the amendments thereto, and should not be charged against moneys advanced to the Province under the provisions of the Unemployment and Farm Relief Act, 1931 and, as indicated by the provisions of P.C. 102 aforesaid, already expended by the Province. These moneys are now due and payable to the Province, and representations to that end should be made to the Dominion forthwith.

## INTEREST

With the exception of \$500,000 advanced under the provisions of P.C. 102, the Province has paid interest, and is still paying interest, upon both its share of Provincial expenditures and the Dominion's share thereof, and will continue to do so until the Dominion approves the certificates of the Province and credits the amount thereof on the Treasury bills now in its possession.

Upon approval of the certificates of the Province aforesaid and payment of the balance due by the Dominion to the Province, representation should be made to the Dominion for a remission of interest paid by or charged against the Province on account of the Dominion's share of said expenditure. In several instances the municipalities are in the same position in this regard as is the Province, and the same consideration should be given them.

The committee report finds that the administration of unemployment relief was carried out in a fair and impartial manner; that there was not political partisanship shown, and that the costs of relief camps were quite in keeping with similar camps for construction purposes by private enterprise.

**Pensions Exempt**—Old age, war service, mothers' and Dominion pensions will be exempt from British Columbia income tax, Hon. J. W. Jones made clear in the Legislature yesterday, during final amendments to the Income Tax Act. Donations to charity up to 5 per cent of the income will be allowable under deductions in specified terms. Absentee wives or husbands cannot claim the benefit of \$500 exemption, if resident outside of the province. With these changes the bill was finally ratified.

**Regret Is Voiced**—Premier Tolmie and T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, joined in the Legislature yesterday in voicing the regret of the members at word of the death of Joseph D. Pearson, pioneer British Columbia resident, and father of George S. Pearson, Liberal member for Nanaimo. The late Mr. Pearson was of sterling character, and highly esteemed by all who knew him, they said, in expressing the formal regret of the House. A message of sympathy will be extended to G. S. Pearson and the relatives.



# STATEMENTS OF HEAD OF VANCOUVER BOARD BRANDED AS UNTRUE

Legislative Committee Terms Harold Brown's Allegations "Scandalous," "Unwarranted," "Inexcusable"—Report Declares Neither Facts Nor His Explanations Justified Charges

## Economical Organization Shown in Unemployed Camps

IN probably the most scathing language ever used in an official document in the history of British Columbia's Legislature, the committee on unemployment relief characterizes the statements of Harold Brown, president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, as "untrue," "unjustifiable" and "unwarranted."

Mr. Brown in an address in Vancouver a few days ago attacked the committee and alleged that if witnesses attempted to tell the truth they "would be crucified." On Monday he appeared before the committee to explain his allegations, and failed to do so. He confessed that he had never attended the sittings of the committee, but had "listened in," such listening being "in the radio sense." He refused to particularize as to the possible crucifixion of truthful witnesses, or to substantiate his charges by citing concrete facts, but rather entered a general condemnation of "political commissions" in general.

In the report filed in the Legislature last night a considerable portion of Mr. Brown's explanation is quoted from the transcript of evidence, after which the committee finds:

### STATEMENT "SCANDALOUS"

"Your committee, after listening to Mr. Brown's evidence, has come to the conclusion that the statements made by him in regard to the proceedings of the committee are unwarranted, either by facts or by any explanation made by him, and that his criticism that 'if anyone told the truth he would be crucified' is scandalous and untrue, and so far as it especially refers to civil servants is unjustifiable and extremely regrettable in that these officials are unable to offer any defence. Furthermore, your committee is of the opinion that the remarks made by Mr. Brown are inexcusable in that they were made on the eve of your committee's report and without any knowledge of its contents. Your committee also notes that Mr. Brown refused to give a single instance of 'shameless evasion,' 'distortion of the truth,' or any specific evidence to substantiate his charges."

The report cites that "many other charges equally extravagant and baseless were investigated" and cites a few. These included statements made in the Ottawa House by Tom Reid, M.P. for New Westminster, and A. W. Nell, M.P. for Alberni, as well as other allegations such as radios being supplied at the public expense to relief camps; the buying of pianos and similar charges which were exploded during the course of the committee's inquiry.

### PRICE OF LUMBER

One charge was that lumber had been purchased at a cost of \$74 per thousand feet. It was proved that in order to make tables for use in one of the camps \$2.24 was spent for such lumber.

Another charge was that a nephew of Hon. W. A. McKenzie had rented machinery to the Government for unemployed relief work. It was found that the man in question was not a relative of the minister, and further that he had not rented any machinery to the Government.

It was found that the cost of the Allico rented camp amounted to only six cents a day per man, and that this included blankets, showers, cooking utensils and all the equipment of a first-class camp.

### COST OF BLANKETS

Another charge that was dealt with was one that a firm had quoted on 10,000 blankets, and that such a number had later been purchased from another source at higher prices. Investigation disclosed that 7,700 pairs of blankets were purchased from the West Coast Woollen Mills, Vancouver; that they were made in British Columbia from British Columbia wool, and that the cost was below the figure quoted in the complaint. Another order was for 450 pairs. This was a rush order, placed in Victoria, and the price was below that upon which complaint was based.

### CAMP OPERATION

The committee in answering criticisms of A. W. Nell, voiced in the House of Commons relative to camps, says in the report:

"Your committee finds that the camps were built and equipped in accordance with the regulations of the Health Act of British Columbia, and regulations for the sanitary control of lumber, mining and other camps, sawmills and other industries, and were similar, both as to cost and equipment, to camps used by contractors and lumbermen for similar numbers, purposes and periods. The showers referred to are required by the regulations aforesaid and were installed at the rate of one to twenty or twenty-five men, at a cost of \$7 per shower; the construction consisted of tarpapered partitions with slats on the floor and wooden drains. Twenty-three Delco lighting plants were installed; a number of these were purchased second-hand and have a high salvage value. The cost of lighting by electric light was carefully estimated, and it was found that, in large permanent camps, electric light was the most economical of all available systems and also greatly reduced the fire hazard."

Sweeps Illegal—A move by Tom Uphill (Labor, Fernie), to have the British Columbia Government operate sweepstakes, was denied in the Legislature last evening, when it was pointed out this was against the Criminal Code.

Presentation Made—T. D. Pattullo and Mrs. Pattullo were presented with a club bag and a sterling silver desk set, respectively, by Liberal members of the Legislature last evening. Dr. H. C. Wrinch made the presentation in appropriate terms.

## Note and Comment

By R. B. D.

And having looked to government for bread, on the very first scarcity they will turn and bite the hand that fed them.—Burke.

Political parsons are bellowing broadcasts against politicians, whereas if they were true to the principles they profess the political parsons should be praying for the salvation of the souls of political sinners. It may be a rash thing to say, but we are going to take a chance and say that there are almost as many bletherers in the pulpits these days as there are bletherers in parliaments and legislatures—and there are a few bletherers even in those seats of the mighty, the chairs of editorial writers for the newspapers. The political parsons are demanding abolition of the party system of government. The editorial writers are thundering demands for the adoption of a non-political form of government.

The President of the Vancouver Board of Trade also declares that he has lost confidence in politicians and has demanded that all political governments be dissolved and governments of business men be formed. The fact is so well known that it does not require demonstration that parsons in many cases are so ill-informed upon the subject of business that they are incapable of intelligent management of their own private affairs. We can vouch for the fact—for it is based upon personal experience—that editors are only second to parsons, if indeed they are second to anybody, in their ignorance of business. The politicians may have made mistakes in their efforts to establish perfect governments and to give countries efficient administration of the countries' business; but God help any people who trust the administration of their affairs to a combination of clerics, scribes and business Pharisees.

The parsons and the scribes and the president of the Vancouver Board of Trade have declared that they have lost confidence in political governments and have demanded the dissolution of all political parties and the creation of a government in which there would be no politicians. The leader of the opposition in our legislature has pointed out something that we pointed out a few weeks ago: that there cannot be any such visionary institution as a nonpolitical form of government, for immediately a nonpolitical government is formed it becomes a political government and the body of a political party—and when a government is formed an opposition is automatically formed in opposition to that government. Such a condition must prevail as long as there are two or more individuals who differ in opinion, and there is no subject known to the minds of men in which there are so many divergences of opinion as on the subject of "government of the people for the people by the people." You may change the names of political parties, but you cannot eliminate party politics by the simple process of changing the names of political parties.

We were interested in the radical statements of the president of the Vancouver Board of Trade not only because he represents a big city and big business interests but because he represents a city which is governed by a non-political administration. While reading his opinions upon the failure of political governments in the province, we wondered whether Mr. Brown ever had given consideration to the matter of the success or failure of the civic administration of his own city. If the provincial government has been extravagant in its administration, has the Vancouver civic government been wise and frugal in its administration? Are the financial affairs of Vancouver relatively in much better shape than the financial affairs of the province?

Are not the financial affairs of Vancouver in such a hopeless mess that both the Dominion government and the provincial government have been repeatedly appealed to to extend relief—of course at the expense of the taxpayers of the Dominion and of the province. Mr. Brown has stated that the present condition of affairs is approaching a climax which may be tragic. Is the tragic complex of Mr. Brown due to the fact that the Dominion and the province, after careful consideration of their own financial situation, have been obliged to reject some of the demands of Vancouver?

If a non-party system of government is a better and more effective form of government than a party form of government, even relative to population, there is more crime in Vancouver than there is in other sections of the province. The police system of Vancouver is administered on non-party lines, yet house-breakers and hold-up men are pursuing their unlawful courses daily and nightly and "disappearing without trace" as far as the police are concerned.

If the clerics and the scribes and the big business men are so sure that they could clean up everything if given a chance, why do they not "try their prentice hands" on Vancouver?

Why not stop their blethering and their scribbling and their denouncing and get into action in a limited way? Then after they had given a convincing demonstration of their superior capacity for government shirven of the crime of politics, they might have a claim for a trial in the wider field of the province and the Dominion. But it may be that impractical demagogues are more dangerous to social order than so-called practical politicians.

House Nears Close—With the expressed intention of sitting last evening until its order paper was clear, the British Columbia Legislature expects to be prorogued by Lieutenant-Governor J. W. Fordham Johnson today, after final assent to the few remaining bills. Tabling of the report of the select committee on unemployment, and detailed debate on that issue, occupied the closing hours of the sitting. The session opened February 17.

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INVITING nonpolitical employment try at this time an eloquent of the final that had inve Serious thou by the commi a plane much politics, in a some solution the Governme distress of Twigg stated. British Colum with unemplo magnified sca that action wo constructive li industries in abs ful service mas country.

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# Committee Chairman Puts Unemployment Problem to Members

H. D. Twigg Appeals for Nonpolitical and Serious Consideration of Major Question Before Legislature

INVITING the most serious attention of the Legislature on nonpolitical lines to the consideration of the relief of unemployment as one of the gravest issues facing the country at this time, H. D. Twigg (Conservative, Victoria) made an eloquent appeal to the House last evening, on introduction of the final report of the select committee of the Legislature that had investigated the subject.

Serious thought had been given by the committee in its report, on a plane much higher than party politics, in an endeavor to find some solution which would assist the Government in alleviating the distress of unemployment. Mr. Twigg stated. It was admitted that British Columbia could not deal with unemployment relief on a magnified scale, but the hope was that action would be possible along constructive lines to help basic industries in absorbing back into useful service many fine citizens of the country.

## PROBLEM OF YOUTH

All members of the committee, he said, had felt keenly the position of the youth of today, willing and anxious to turn to some useful work, and puzzled by the frustration of natural ambitions in that regard. Some special measures should be designed to meet this condition, in the interests of those who would be the citizens of tomorrow.

Mr. Twigg said he made no excuses for the faults of the report, for it had been a tremendous problem that had been handed to the committee. Evidence had been heard from all classes of society, including the sworn testimony of Government officials, whose evidence could not be contested or impugned. The committee had a number of concrete suggestions to make, contained in the recommendations of the report, and was sincere in bringing forward these proposals.

It was the plain duty of members of both sides of the House to consider the whole question without political bias, with the honest aim of finding some solution of the problem.

## TRANSIENT CASES

Discussing the actual recommendations, Mr. Twigg said that the committee was very much of the view that some further form of assistance would have to be devised for the municipalities, who could not carry the burden of their share of unemployment relief much longer. There was also the question of transients, British Columbia having received over 11,000 of these in the last twelve months, and the care of whom was at least a Dominion and interprovincial matter.

Further effort should be made to care for women misplaced through present depression in their normal working occupations, and for whom little had been done in the past.

Mr. Twigg said the committee heartily endorsed the representations of the active militia units as to the care of their own unemployed. These men had fought and won fame for Canada overseas in the Great War, and could be best taken care of now through their own regimental units.

## RESEARCH BUREAU

Along the line of industrial research, there was the opportunity that British Columbia industry could be seriously studied and made to yield some better solution than at present for the absorption of

those without work. If some industries could be put back on an export basis the way would be opened to a great advance along this line, he said.

In presenting the report, Mr. Twigg concluded, he had endeavored to keep away from the discordant note, and to pave the way for an impartial and fair consideration of the subject as the most vital problem affecting the fortunes of British Columbia in these days.

A. M. Manson followed. He ignored the plea for nonpolitical consideration of the matter. Instead of a calm consideration of the subject of debate he pitched headlong into a torrential attack on the Victoria member, characterizing him as unfitted for the office of chairman of the relief committee by reason of the fact that he, Mr. Manson, and other members of the Opposition were unable to get along with Mr. Twigg, and frequently clashed.

Continuing his attack, the Omineca member said that the chairman had refused time and time again to call witnesses which the Opposition members had asked him to call before the committee.

Hon. R. L. Maitland—Please give us the names.

Robert Rutledge (Burnaby)—That is not so.

Repeated demands for specific details respecting the allegation were made, but Mr. Manson failed to support his contention. He did explain at great length, though, that there were witnesses whom he would like to have called, but did not do so, and he had not asked that they be called. He did not suggest the names of these persons because of his regard for the treasury.

Hon. R. H. Pooley—Your regard for your party was greater.

Without being specific Mr. Manson charged waste and extravagance in the handling of unemployment. He did admit that specific charges he had brought before the committee had been proved to be groundless, but excused himself by saying that these had been contained in a letter from a person unknown to him, and he had brought them forward without personal investigation.

He declared that counsel had been employed for the committee without the sanction of the committee as a whole, and charged that members of the Opposition sitting on the committee had not been asked to contribute constructive suggestions to the report. This statement was directly denied both by Mr. Twigg and Mr. Rutledge.

## PLAYED POLITICS

Hon. R. H. Pooley replied. Mr. Manson at the end of a long, rambling speech, had appealed for the elimination of politics from the issue, he commented. That was what the Government had proposed in the first instance. Mr. Manson was a little late with his advice, and had not taken it himself, he said. In 1930, Mr. Manson had stamped the country in support of Mackenzie King, saying there was no unemployment. Mr. Pooley commented.

Thomas King (Lib., Columbia) explained contracts he had held with the Dominion Government before becoming a member of the Provincial House. Later he had been shut off from tendering, he said. He had saved \$2,100 for the Government, he said. Mr. Twigg conceded that there was no reflection in any form against the member for Columbia.

In regard to camps in the Columbia area, Mr. King said the Government had lost money by importing stores from the Coast, instead of buying locally. He had not sought any trade in provincial channels, he concluded.

## OBSTRUCTION CHARGED

J. A. Loutet (Cons., North Vancouver) told of the experiences of the committee, and charged obstruction by Opposition members at every turn. The Opposition had played for headlines in the Liberal press, he averred. In so far as the leader of the Opposition and the member for Omineca were concerned, he would say they had a highly developed hindsight, but little foresight. He would agree that too much politics had entered into unemployment discussions, but this was not true of the committee, he declared.

Many other speakers followed as the debate continued to a late hour.

# LEGISLATURE CLEARS DECK

Moratorium and Workmen's Compensation Measures Are Outlined in House

Final reading and enactment, subject to the royal assent, was given in the Legislature yesterday afternoon to six measures, while remaining bills on the order paper were completed in committee, ready for the final sitting. Amendments to the Game Act, Provincial Elections Act, Superannuation Act, Shops Regulation Act, Constitution Act (redistribution), and the Fuel Oil Tax Act, 1930, were finally passed. Preparations were made to get ready for prorogation today.

The chief measure before the House for debate was that to provide for a moratorium on principal sums on mortgages and agreements, exclusive of interest and taxes. Attorney-General Pooley explained the intent of the measure and debate followed, in which the Government was invited to extend the scope of the moratorium proposed.

## MANY-SIDED QUESTION

In consideration of any general moratorium, a great variety of viewpoints had to be considered, said Mr. Pooley. While it was the desire of the Government to give relief to the borrower, it had also to be careful to see that the lender was not placed in just as bad a plight as the recipient would be without the proposed stay by judicial reference.

The present bill, he stated, was along the lines of the laws in Ontario and Alberta, providing for a moratorium on principal sums under specified heads, but not applicable to taxes, interest or life insurance premiums. The general intent of the bill was to place in the hands of the courts a wider measure of control over the respective equities of lenders and borrowers, to see that no one would unjustly suffer.

A. M. Manson (Lib., Omineca), proposed that instead of specific language, the moratorium be applied in a short bill in general terms, confined to the intent, and leaving the weight of decision with the courts. The principle of a fixed moratorium would create hardship on many, he averred. He concurred that abatement of interest and taxes on any general plan would not be in the best interest, but would invite abuses which had followed the wartime moratorium and which had driven many to the wall.

## WOULD WIDEN ACT

T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, thought the measure was not wide enough in its terms. He concurred in court review of the justice of action in each case, but thought that interest as well as principal ought to be left open to such review.

Exemption from the act of municipal agreements would bear heavily on home owners, and property reversions would follow, Mr. Manson believed.

In so far as Vancouver was concerned, property owners had the effect of a three-year lapse in which to make up their tax arrears before tax sale became operative finally, said G. A. Walkem (Cons., Vancouver).

Forty small real estate dealers of Vancouver had asked him to say that they favored a year's moratorium on principal sums and on taxes, but that interest should be kept paid up, William Dick (Cons., Vancouver), stated. Vancouver had 700 taxpayers on relief now, and confiscation of property would add to this evil, he declared, unless something was done to offset it.

## HAD MANY ANGLES

Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., pointed to the position of the relatively small investor, holding mortgages, and who, if shut off from all revenue, would be in a worse case than those it was proposed to help. Moratorium plans had many angles, he said.

The wartime moratorium law had been much abused, Mr. Maitland continued, and any effort to make the terms of the present law too sweeping would be followed by abuses which would have a counter effect to that proposed to bring about. Under normal process it required some nine months to foreclose, and this period, at the discretion of the courts, could well be slightly extended, without giving any such blanket powers as suggested by some members of the House, he concluded.

J. W. Berry (Cons., Delta) and Col. Nelson Spencer (Cons., Vancouver) spoke in support of the bill as it stood.

## MUNICIPAL VIEWPOINT

Mayor A. W. Gray (Lib., New Westminster) pointed to the fact that many cities were owed taxes for two years now on a large volume of property, and did not want this property. Under existing municipal law, it would go to tax sale this year, in the third period, while 15 per cent interest was chargeable on taxation arrears.

It would be cheaper in the long run to devise ways of keeping people on their property, particularly farmers who wished to stay there. He would be in favor of widening the scope of the bill to bring in taxes and interest, both at the discretion of the courts, Mr. Gray said.

"In connection with municipalities, we would welcome anything that would give us the opportunity of extending time for the payment of tax arrears," Mr. Gray concluded, stating he was in general sympathy with the purposes of the bill.

Loan companies were demanding very high interest rates for renewals, as high as 10 per cent in some cases, and the whole field of tax collection was a grave matter, said Mr. Dick, pressing for inclusion of tax payments in the moratorium.

## MEASURE REASONABLE

T. H. Kirk (Cons., Vancouver) regarded the measure reasonable as presented. He would be willing to agree to inclusion of taxes in the

proposed stay of payment, if the Government felt at liberty in going that far. The whole question was a delicate one, and not to be rushed at too wholeheartedly in any direction, he averred.

Mr. Pooley closed debate on the issue for the time being, stating that operation of the wartime moratorium had served to drive large capital out of British Columbia, due to the abuses that had crept into plans designed at that time to provide general relief for those pressed in meeting future obligations. He said he would take the presentations made under advisement during the supper recess.



#### WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

First and second readings to a bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act followed. Mr. Pooley explained the changes were approved by the board and designed generally to give relief to industry in regard to the assessments that had to be met for the operation of the plan.

It was proposed to establish a "merit rating" in industries in regard to accident prevention; to adjust interest sums on funds temporarily transferred from one class to another under the act; to provide for proper estimates of payroll commitments by employers; to legalize payments of medical aid for injuries under three days' duration; to take power to assess employers for improvements made to plants under orders of the board, and to make other adjustments in the operation of the scheme.

#### ACCUMULATED FUNDS

In relation to the accumulated funds of the board, Mr. Pooley said it was proposed to use the services of a highly-trained actuary to see if any surplus existed above requirements that could be used to make things easier for industry in the next few years.

Four or five calls had been made on the logging industry last year, with payments at the rate of 9½ per cent per annum, an increase from 3½ per cent a few years ago. It was proposed in the present bill to give power to spread the assessment over a term of years to lighten the load on industry in difficult times.

Suggested changes in personnel on the board were not touched in the bill, Mr. Pooley said finally, in answer to further questions.

#### THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The session of the Legislature, which ends today, has been prolonged beyond the expected limit of its duration. Possibly the reason for this was the long, drawn-out inquiry of the Unemployment Relief Committee. This body was created on the volition of the Government to show the people exactly what had been done in the matter of unemployment relief as directed by Provincial agencies. The prolongation of discussion on this subject was due, very largely, to the efforts of Liberal members of the committee to draw red herrings across the trail, and particularly to show that, in the matter of financing, the desirable co-operation was lacking between the Provincial and Federal authorities. After all, the main purpose of the committee was to ascertain if the moneys used for unemployment relief were well spent. The committee found that there was no course open to the Government other than to provide camps, and that the pressure towards that end, on the part of the public, including municipal authorities, the police and the press, was unanimous.

While the question of unemployment relief occupied a good deal of the limelight, main interest in the proceedings of the session centred on the budget. It was a document prepared by Mr. J. W. Jones, the Minister of Finance, with very great care. It showed, without any equivocation, the state of Provincial finances. It illustrated the large economies that have been effected within recent months. It decreed a balanced budget at the end of the present fiscal year, provided economic conditions become no worse than they are at present. The methods devised by the Finance Minister to secure additional revenue, requisite even though there was a reduction in the estimated expenditures for 1932-1933 of some \$5,000,000 as compared with the estimated expenditures for 1931-1932, met with no criticism of a character that necessitated any drastic changes in the proposals. In effect, the burden of whatever increased taxation there is has been widely spread, and in no case is it too onerous to be borne.

What will impress the public mind most as a result of the disclosures of the session is the range of economies to which the Government pledged itself. These were apparent in a striking fashion in the Departmental votes. The cost of the University of British Columbia has at length been brought down to a figure commensurate with our population, and there is no reason whatever to believe that the efficacy of that institution as an educational centre, in the character of education which is most desirable, will suffer. The Government, too, has curtailed on other educational grants, and in doing so has met the demands of the taxpayers. Hereafter the municipalities are to bear a share of the cost of social service benefits which hitherto have fallen exclusively on the Provincial authority. That provision will at least have the effect of bringing home more closely to the people the character of the burden which those services entail and how they have been responsible for such a continuous growth in taxation.

An outcome of the session, the Government has unquestionably strengthened its prestige. It may be said, indeed, to have led the cause of economy, and in doing so set a strenuous example to the municipalities. Cabinet Ministers' salaries have been cut; sessional indemnities reduced; the entire Civil Service is bearing its share of the sacrifice which is the order of the day. The people have acquiesced without demur of any consequence in the new taxes and have shown a disposition to support loyally the efforts being made to establish sounder financial conditions in view of exiguous circumstances. In effect, the Government has pointed the way in all-round co-operative effort, and it is an example which is being followed on every side. Such a course as the Government pursued demanded courage and persistency. It necessarily aroused party political criticism from the Liberals, but such criticism was always met in a manner which appealed to the common sense of the people. The vast majority of those people are sufficiently sporting to admit that most of the blame for present-day conditions rests upon themselves, their incessant clamors for expenditures and their desire to put off the day of reckoning.

During the course of the session, Premier Tolmie's health has considerably improved, and for some weeks past he has been able to give close attention to his duties. This is a matter for congratulation by the people of British Columbia. The Premier is personally very popular; he is recognized as having no interest to serve save that of Provincial welfare; he devotes himself whole-heartedly and in a self-sacrificing way to the many problems with which his Government has to contend at the present time. It is satisfactory to know that the Government has emerged from the session with added laurels. At least a part of the solution of present-day material misfortune lies in co-operative effort, and such effort can never be forthcoming when people are too ready to blame constituted authority for faults which are inherent in themselves.

#### LOOSE TALKING

It was presumably as president of the Vancouver Board of Trade that Mr. H. Brown was summoned before the Legislative Committee on Unemployment to explain criticism of a derogatory character that he had levelled against that body. He explained that what he had said was in his personal capacity, that he was giving his personal views and that he did not intend to impugn the personal character of members of the committee. His personal views on the trend, the scope and the character of the inquiry by the Legislative Committee lose all their pith and moment when dissociated from his capacity as president of the Vancouver Board of Trade. It develops he was merely expressing views derived from hearsay evidence and obviously such views are based on party political prejudice.

Mr. Brown's statements are another illustration of loose talking. It is one of the sins of the age and one which is the concomitant of denunciatory political views. Mr. Brown, so far as we know, has never been a member of a legislative body and probably has the average ignorance of parliamentary practice and procedure. He had the self confidence, however, to put himself forward as a judge of the methods of a parliamentary inquiry without having attended a single session. Mr. Brown cannot divorce his comment from a sense of political spleen. Obviously he set out to discredit a parliamentary investigation participated in by the members of both political parties in the Legislature. To Mr. Brown it is a matter of indifference that those whom he made the subjects of his caustic wit are the elected representatives of the people. In effect it is the people he is indicting for having elected representatives of a character who do not see eye to eye with Mr. Brown.

The actual comment made by Mr. Brown is built up on hearsay evidence and the preconceived notions of his informants. He makes no secret of the object of his comment, which is to forward the fortunes of a new political party of which he is a member. The amusing feature of the situation is that he disclaims having anything to do with politics, apparently ignoring the fact that politics are simply the science of government and that he is engaged in propaganda to forward the claims to recognition of a new political party. Mr. Brown should learn that every inquiry undertaken by a legislative body, in fact every action that such a body takes, is of a political nature. Mr. Brown himself is obviously head over heels in politics, and in extremely partisan politics as well, or else he would have recognized, from the standpoint of judicial common sense, that there is unwisdom in oracular utterances on the basis of hearsay evidence.

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The battle of cushions followe the restraint o hardest session the present Leg

Side by side the Legislature weeks had gon select committee involving almost for a large num The report of adopted at 2 o'cl ing, after an which the Gover busly supported with a division of the report.

#### GOVERNMENT

In his closing said:

"Mr. Speaker Legislative Asser "In closing this of the Seventee the Province of is my desire to e tion of the at have given to the questions submi sideration.

"The bill ratify with the Domin palities respectr employment, and powers for deall tant subject, is a needed measu the existing com trial depression.

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# House Prorogues After Two Months' Strenuous Labor

**Hon. J. W. Fordham Johnson Releases Members From Many Weeks' Continuousittings and Heaviest Programme of Present Legislature—Sixty-Seven Acts Passed**

**E**IGHT weeks to the day from the date it convened, the fourth session of the Seventeenth Legislature of British Columbia was prorogued at 11:30 o'clock yesterday morning by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor. The brief ceremony included the arrival of Hon. J. W. Fordham Johnson, his assent to the acts of the session in the name of His Majesty, and the customary closing address of thanks for the passage of supply.

The battle of sessional papers and cushions followed, as Members broke the restraint of the longest and hardest session in the memory of the present Legislature.

Side by side with the sittings of the Legislature for six of the eight weeks had gone the work of the select committee on unemployment, involving almost continuous duties for a large number in the House. The report of the committee was adopted at 2 o'clock yesterday morning, after an all-night debate in which the Government was vigorously supported and which closed with a division of 25-9 on adoption of the report.

## GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

In his closing address His Honor said:

"Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

"In closing this the fourth session of the Seventeenth Parliament of the Province of British Columbia, it is my desire to express my appreciation of the attention which you have given to the many important questions submitted for your consideration.

"The bill ratifying the agreements with the Dominion and the municipalities respecting the relief of unemployment, and providing further powers for dealing with this important subject, is expected to afford a needed measure of relief during the existing commercial and industrial depression.

"The bill providing for the issuance of provisional free miners' certificates, and the suspension of the requirements as to payment of recording fees in respect of placer mining claims, is expected to stimulate prospecting and to afford a means of useful employment, as well as development in the mining industry.

"The bill for the relief of mortgagors and purchasers of lands is expected to afford a measure of relief to owners of land who are seriously affected by the present financial conditions.

"The bill respecting petroleum and natural gas is expected to protect the public interest in connection with the development of the petroleum and natural gas resources of the province.

"The bills amending the Bills of Sale Act and the Conditional Sales Act, for the purpose of establishing a system of central registration of liens affecting motor vehicles, is expected to afford an additional means of preventing frauds in connection with dealings in motor vehicles.

"The bill amending the Provincial Elections Act contains provisions to facilitate the more frequent revision and correction of Provincial voters' lists.

"The bill amending the Insurance Act enacts new provisions respecting automobile insurance, and in connection with amendments enacted to the Motor Vehicle Act provides a needed measure of protection to the public in respect of damages suffered through automobile accidents, and is expected to prevent the use of the highways by irresponsible drivers.

"The bill amending the Land Act is designed to facilitate the disposal of Crown lands by rendering it easier for settlers to acquire such lands.

"The amendments to the Municipal Act are designed to facilitate the conduct of municipal affairs.

"The bill amending the Public Schools Act is intended to extend the basis of taxation for school purposes in municipal and rural school districts, so as to relieve the burden of taxation on land.

"I trust that these and the various other laws and amendments you have enacted will inure to the welfare of the province.

"I thank you for the supplies so generously granted for the public service.

"In releasing you from your labors, I trust that the blessing of Providence will accompany you to your respective homes."

## BATTLE OF PAPERS

Hon. S. L. Howe, Provincial Secretary, announced His Honor's wish that the session be prorogued, and the gubernatorial party retired. Singing of the National Anthem closed the proceedings.

The break-up and the annual battle of papers followed, sheafs of sessional documents being sent flying into the air, like doves of white pigeons, to settle in gathering clusters on the royal blue carpet of the august chamber.

Political friends and foes crossed hands in hearty adieu, while the Liberal bloc made mock ceremony around a "tombstone" to Columbia and Alberni ridings, redistributed into the limbo of amalgamated ridings of yesterday.

## ROYAL ASSENT GIVEN

Forty-eight acts were assented to in the name of His Majesty, in addition to nineteen others previously ratified. The list of those assented to yesterday included the following measures in amendment of existing laws, except where otherwise noted:

Vital Statistics Act, Moving Pictures Act, Provincial Elections Act, Insurance Act, Shops Regulation Act, Execution Act, Government Liquor Act, Motor Vehicle Act, Public Schools Act, Land Act, Amusements Tax Act, Gasoline Tax Act, Municipalities Aid Act, Companies Act, Game Act, Coal and Petroleum Act, Jury Act, Company Clauses

Act, Medical Act, Distress Act, Bills of Sale Act, Conditional Sales Act, Greater Vancouver Water District Act, Barbers' Act, Savings and Loan Associations Act, Victoria Lumber & Manufacturing Company, Limited, Act, Vancouver Incorporation Act, 1921, Agricultural Act, Teachers' Pensions Act, Village Municipalities Act, Taxation Act, Special Revenue Tax Act, Superannuation Act, Fuel-Oil Tax Act, Constitution Act, Revenue Act, Radium Act and Workmen's Compensation Act.

## NEW LAWS PASSED

New laws were promulgated in relation to canned fish and canneries, provincial control of insurance, regulation of oil and natural gas development, the Loan Act of 1932, creation of Cultus Lake Park, the new Income Tax Act, Unemployment Relief Act, Moratorium Act and definition of the liability of municipalities in regard to institutional costs and the main 1932 Supply Act.

The Contributory Negligence Act and amendments to the Trades Licence Act were allowed to die on the order paper, both being minor changes which the Legislature did not bring into effect.

## RADIUM VALUES DRAW ATTENTION

**Ore on Quadra Island Said to Have Engaged Attention of Capital—May Be Developed**

Promising indications of radio-active ore on Quadra Island have drawn the attention of capital, and there is some prospect that active development to test the holdings may follow, Hon. W. A. McKenzie told the Legislature this week, during debate on the Radium Act.

By changes in the existing law controlling discovery of radium ores, it was proposed to encourage such development, the Minister of Mines stated.

The Province reserves the right to purchase all radium found, but is now prepared to yield a greater measure of return to the locators and original owners of such property. A reward of \$5,000 will go for the actual discovery of any radium found in the province, apart from the commercial significance of the find.

## A GROWING REPUTATION

During the course of the past session of the Legislature a heavy share of work fell to the lot of Mr. H. D. Twigg (Victoria), particularly in relation to his duties as chairman of the Unemployment Committee of Inquiry. His manner of handling that inquiry came in for ill-tempered criticism from the political opponents of the Provincial Government. Efforts were made to hamper the true purposes of the inquiry. The Liberal members of the committee sought to divert its aims into the by-ways and hedges of party scandal. They sought to create a false impression in the public mind by a process of innuendo, but failed, somewhat lamentably, in proving any of the charges preferred. They were given all the rope they wanted for the purpose of tripping up the Government and injuring its reputation. Mr. Twigg was undeniably long-suffering in the exercise of his chairmanship.

In speaking to the report of the Unemployment Committee in the Legislature during the concluding hours of the session, Mr. Twigg made a strong appeal for the abandonment of partisanship in consideration of such a serious economic problem. His speech was illustrative of the breadth of his understanding and the judicial attitude of his mentality. Many constructive suggestions had been put before the committee. Mr. Twigg wants these considered solely on the basis of a desire on every hand to meet the issue. Like all thinkers, he is persuaded that the main solution of unemployment lies in action which will help basic industries to absorb into useful service those who are now out of work. This problem is intensified if party bias is shown in its handling. Mr. Twigg reviewed the whole situation in a dispassionate manner and was obviously concerned, in the keenest possible fashion,

with finding the best solution. That, too, is the tenor of the Unemployment Committee's report.

In the manner in which he conducted the Unemployment Committee of the Legislature, and in the yeoman service he has rendered in so many ways during the past session, Mr. Twigg deserves not only the thanks of the Government and of the Conservative Party of the Province, but of our citizenship as a whole, irrespective of political bias. He had an exacting task, which he performed in meritorious fashion, and his speech of Tuesday evening in the Legislature was an epitome of his statesmanlike attitude on what is one of the gravest problems of the day. No private member of our Legislature has ever worked harder than Mr. Twigg, or worked to better purpose. As an unusually capable and loyal follower of the Government he has won his spurs, both in the field of hard work and in the arena of debate. What is more, he has impressed his ability on the legislative annals of the province and earned the thanks of its citizens for the duties he has so ably performed on their behalf.



# Government Upheld In Lengthy Debate On Relief Policies

Report of Select Committee Adopted by Legislature by Overwhelming Majority, After Five-Hour Debate Featuring Plain Speaking

OFFICIAL support of the Government's policies on unemployment relief were expressed in debate on the report of the unemployment committee, which ended the closing hours of the session. The debate commenced shortly after the start of the sitting Tuesday evening, and terminated at 2 o'clock on Wednesday morning in the adoption of the committee's report by an overwhelming majority of 25-9. Conservatives in the House voted solidly with the Government on the issue.

There was little comparison between the return of soldiers from overseas in 1919 in comparatively good times, and the present problem faced in unemployment which ranged around the world in every country, Premier Tolmie commented. If the present Government had attempted to settle the unemployed on the land at the same relative cost now borne by the taxpayers in relation to the post-war land schemes of the former ministry, there would have been an uproar of objection from the present opposition, he said.

## REALIZED THE NEED

The Leader of the Opposition and his supporters had stumped the country in the last Federal election, agreeing with Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King that "there was no unemployment." It ill became the same men now to criticize a Government that had recognized the situation, and had attempted to meet it honestly, continued the Premier. The fact was unemployment was an actual condition that had to be met, and British Columbia's actions to meet the case would compare favorably with those of any province in Canada.

Creation of camps had been a necessity, demanded by urgent Dominion and municipal pressure to get idle men out of the cities, where they were a prey to agitators in the pay of Communist elements. The unemployment committee of the Cabinet, composed of Hon. W. A. McKenzie, Hon. R. W. Bruhn and Hon. S. L. Howe, had sacrificed their entire labor, and at times their health, to doing their utmost in relief of the actual situation found.

This contrasted sharply, he claimed, with the disgraceful efforts of two Liberal members in the Federal House to discredit British Columbia, and the general attitude shown by the Provincial Opposition in regard to unemployment relief measures. Propaganda, based on rumors without any foundation, had been spread from one end of the province to the other, to blacken the eye of the British Columbia Ministry, he charged.

## TRIBUTE TO COMMITTEE

Premier Tolmie paid tribute to the select committee of the House that investigated the operation of relief matters in British Columbia, and said H. D. Twigg, chairman of the committee, had been fair and reasonable in his conduct of the committee. With such a serious subject in review, the Government had had a right to expect something better from the Opposition than had been accorded.

Brigadier-General J. A. Clark, committee counsel, was a former member of the House of Commons, and a man respected throughout the country for his ability and integrity; and attacks made on the counsel had been unwarranted in every respect. Efforts to disparage the probity of the Civil Service had been made, but fell utterly to the ground.

He would not say that present methods of alleviating unemployment were perfect, or anything other than a temporary remedy, but he would say that no effort had been spared by the Government to give the very best possible attention it could to the matter in hand. Mistakes may have been made, but these had been inevitable, while muck-raking and false report in no way aided the position of those for whom relief had been necessary, Premier Tolmie concluded.

## DEEP LAID MYSTERY

J. W. Berry brought good-humor to the discussion in the small hours of the morning. He told of the mystery hatched before the unemployment committee by the member for Omineca. Mr. Manson had found cryptic "C's" and other letters after the names of employed men in the Deroche camps' time books. The camp accountant had explained all matters relevant to the inquiry there in ten minutes, but the member for Omineca played with the books for a long time. He had found the mysterious ciphers to contain the letters "C," "B.C.," "S.B." and "B.S.," and two hours later had placed the explanation of their meanings, which had been "carpenter," "bull-cook," "straw-boss" and "blacksmith," respectively, but not "Conservatives."

Such cross-examination by Mr. Manson had been a very poor tribute to the ability of the members, honestly trying to determine the course of unemployment relief, as one of the most vital questions of the day. He would say that in the 1,700 pages of the transcript of the evidence there was not a single grounded suggestion of patronage, nor of wrongdoing; but on the other hand a very clear record of painstaking care to meet a situation of unparalleled difficulty, in the best interest of the unemployed, and of the taxpayers of the province, Mr. Berry concluded.

## MYSTERIOUS WITNESS

George Heggie (Conservative, North Okanagan) exploded the latest rumor, by telling the inside story of the mysterious witness, a Mr. Brian, who Opposition members had said had waited three weeks to be denied a hearing by the committee. This man, he stated, was one of the unemployed who, by reason of his education had been picked from the ranks to be made a timekeeper in one of the North Okanagan relief camps. He had been employed at \$50 a month until work shut down, and then had been dissatisfied at continuing on at \$20 a month.

He did not know who brought the man to Victoria, but he had the word of the leader of the Opposition that Mr. Pattullo had advanced his passage money home after the committee rose, Mr. Heggie declared. He would have been willing personally to have paid Mr. Brian's expense to get his story before the committee, for, as member for the district, he knew the North Okanagan camps and their operation, and could vouch for the fact that there had been nothing amiss.

Mr. Brian had been taken from a "jungle" settlement of transient unemployed collecting at Vernon, and while there was not the slightest suggestion to his discredit, Mr. Heggie said he wondered why men of the standing of the president of the Vancouver Board of Trade chose to base their criticisms of the Government on such slender grounds.

## CAMPS IN ORDER

He would inform the House that the five camps in the North Okanagan riding had been ably constructed and operated, without undue waste in any particular, Mr. Heggie concluded amid cheers.

Colonel Nelson Spencer (Conservative, Vancouver) declared that for the amount of money involved and the large number of men to be provided for, the operation of

the British Columbia relief scheme had been well managed and the cost was by no means out of place. He foresaw the needs of more permanent remedy, and would advise creation of an independent research group to assist industry in absorbing the surplus of labor as soon as it could be done.

## CERTIFICATE OF CHARACTER

T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, criticized the terms and intent of the committee's report, which, he charged, was brought in to give a certificate of good character to the Government. The only constructive suggestion he saw in the document was that taken from the ideas of George S. Pearson, Liberal member for Nanaimo, as to the creation of a provincial research committee to study unemployment problems.

Mr. Pattullo charged that the committee had been given the fullest of instructions to investigate every single phase in the whole operation of unemployment relief, and to his mind had not done so. The Government was too anxious to exculpate itself, he declared, and had brought in a counsel for its own defence. It was a self-accused Government anyway, he contended. He was prepared to leave the verdict to the people.

## "MCGEOUGH PILLORIED"

M. H. McGeough, Federal relief officer in British Columbia, had been pilloried before the committee, until T. H. Kirk, one of the Government's own supporters had rebelled, continued Mr. Pattullo. Witness after witness had been called to refute the testimony of Mr. McGeough without any opportunity for rebuttal by that officer.

Mr. Twigg—You cannot refute a voucher for payment; it is there and speaks for itself!

The Government had failed lamentably in the handling of the whole situation, and must abide the consequences, Mr. Pattullo declared. For himself, he had held eighty meetings last year in every part of the province and had not once blamed the Government on unemployment matters or sought to embarrass the ministry in the face of a difficult problem. He would say now, however, that the whole affair was a travesty, Mr. Pattullo concluded.

## REPLY IS MADE

Hon. W. A. McKenzie, chairman of the unemployment relief committee of the Cabinet, chided Mr. Pattullo with saying diverse things in different parts of his itinerary around the province. In rural areas he had attacked the Government for not giving more road work to the farmers, while in city centres the story had been that the Government had been giving away money wholesale to provide work for men who did not need it.

The minister said he had kept a kindly lookout on the leader of the Opposition, as traced by newspaper accounts all over the province, and could bring chapter and verse to prove his assertion if necessary.

One land scheme of the late Liberal Government alone had cost over \$800,000 without any productive result, and this was as much as the cost of the camps, even if they had had no salvage value, which they had.

In 1930, Mr. Pattullo and his Federal chieftain had been predicting the greatest boom that Canada ever was to see, and now the leader of the Opposition was accusing the British Columbia Government of not having foreseen and gauged the extent of the depression. This was a north-by-south type of argument, Mr. McKenzie intimated, and as constant only as the changing winds of the heavens.

## L. A. HANNA SPEAKS

L. A. Hanna (Liberal, Alberni) took a dour view of the future. Unemployment had been getting steadily worse for four years, and there was little outlook that he could see for the products of British Columbia mines, forests, fisheries, or even agriculture. There had been no solution of the fundamental causes of unemployment, and without a return of commodity prices there could be no such solution in so far as British Columbia was concerned. It was up to the Government of the day to correct the present economic system, or else to change it for a better, he concluded.

Many other speakers followed, as the debate wore around to midnight, then one, and two o'clock, when the proceedings terminated in adoption of the committee's report by 25-9, on division.

# NEW PROPOSALS ARE ATTACKED

Kootenay Will Lose Two Seats, Dr. L. E. Borden States in Legislature

Kootenay's vast inland empire found a stout champion in Dr. L. E. Borden (Con., Nelson), who attacked redistribution proposals in the British Columbia Legislature this week, on the ground that while one seat was saved in the total membership of the House, the Kootenay were to lose two seats. Dr. Borden said Coast constituencies had swayed the judgment of the Government.

Creston, said Dr. Borden, was a new and growing area, entitled to representation in its own right. Nelson had pioneer claims to this distinction, being one of the oldest settlements in the Interior, and located in a centre that supplied 15 per cent of the taxable revenues of the province. Both Nelson and Creston would take it to heart, said Dr. Borden, that the vast areas of the Kootenay country, with their diversified production, would lose part of its representation in the Legislature.

## SUPPORTS ATTITUDE

Colonel Fred Lister associated himself with the remarks of Dr. Borden, asserting Vancouver had gained a new seat, at the expense of inland areas that could ill afford the loss. Vigorous protest was registered by both members, as the bill carried.

Dr. Borden took an active part in debate on the redistribution measure, on behalf of inland ridings which, he said, would be affected by the change. The member for Nelson also took a leading part in discussion of chiropractic legislation, upholding the view that segregation of the calling was not in the best interests of the public at this time.

**A P R**

**1932**



Thursday, March 31, 1932.

#### GAME, FORESTS AND UNIVERSITY

**THE VOTE FOR GAME PROTECTION** this year is \$193,000, about ten per cent less than the vote for this purpose last year. There will be no vote for forest protection this year. Conundrum: Why vote so large a sum for game protection and nothing to protect the forests in which game live and have their being? What happens to the game if our forests are destroyed by fire? The obvious fact is that the two services are inseparably connected with one another, the more imperative, of course, being that of forest protection, since this is necessary not only for the preservation of game but for the welfare of the public who, the government may be surprised to learn, are regarded in most other places as being much more important than game.

There is another suggestive angle to this game appropriation business which is worth recording as an indication of the government's peculiar estimation of values. Last year the vote for this purpose was increased to more than \$200,000, but the vote for the University of British Columbia was reduced by \$200,000. This year, notwithstanding the evangelical zeal of the Minister of Finance for economy till it hurts, the vote for the university was again reduced by \$200,000—a cut of more than fifty per cent—while the vote for the game board was reduced by only a little more than ten thousand dollars. Plainly the university is unfortunate in not being an institution for the training of game birds, game quadrupeds and game fish in diverting little tricks of evasion for the subsequent delectation of hunters and fishermen, or a place where real gentlemen are taught to ride to hounds after some poor little jack-rabbit.

There is something radically wrong with an administrative policy which votes nearly as much for a game board as it does for a university in which some two thousand young people of this province are being trained for their life-work; which votes nearly \$200,000 for animals, birds and fish, and nothing for the protection of our forests upon which our leading industry and the support of most of our population depend. The other day, Premier Tolmie said that anybody who aspired to his job at this time should have his head examined. The extraordinary contrasts we have just cited convince us that the process of head examination should begin in his own ministry.

## Amendments Provide For Dictatorship For Cities

Commissioner May Be Appointed Where Municipalities Default on Bonds

Mill Rate Increase Also Provided For in Municipal Amendments

Important amendments to the Municipal Act are embraced in a bill introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Attorney-General Pooley, outstanding among which was the power to increase the mill rate for general purposes from the present limit of 20 mills to 35 mills. This would apply for the years 1932 and 1933.

The power to tax improvements is raised from 50 per cent to 75 per cent. Provision is made for setting up of a commission to take over any municipality that defaults on its bonds. In this connection the bill sets out that when a municipality fails to pay due interest or principal on its bonds any elector may apply to a judge in the Supreme Court for the appointment of a commissioner. Upon the order being granted the government will name the commissioner and specify his salary. He will be given the power of the mayor or reeve and council school board, police commission, municipal clerk and other officers or governing bodies of the municipality. All the officials and boards mentioned will immediately cease to hold office and the commissioner will have wide powers to run the affairs of the municipality.

The government is given power to revoke the commission and restore normal administrations at such times as it sees fit.

## LEGISLATURE UNANIMOUS!

Members Agree on Motion to Call For a Conference on Silver

Unanimous support was given in the Legislature yesterday to a motion of Capt. James Fitzsimmons, Conservative, Kaslo-Slocan, asking the provincial government to request the Dominion Government to ask the Imperial Conference to arrange for an international conference on the silver question.

The mover stressed the important part silver mining had played in the development of British Columbia, the present plight of the industry and the desirability of a revival. At a price of 60 cents the mines could go to work again, he said.

Among the concrete suggestions he made was that a greater portion of Canadian currency be coined in silver, thereby increasing domestic consumption and firming the price to some extent.

Col. Fred Lister, Creston, seconded the motion, hoped the resolution would lead to some kind of action, and H. F. Kargin, Liberal whip, gave his party's blessing in a sentence asking that the motion pass unanimously. It did.

Friday, April 1, 1932.

#### WHY KEEP IT SECRET?

**IT IS DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND** why Premier Tolmie refuses to make public the report of the reconnaissance survey of the lands in connection with the proposed Alaska-Yukon Highway. This report cost the taxpayers of the province \$35,000 and they are entitled to know what it contains.

The Legislature was told yesterday that negotiations are under way with an English syndicate looking to the possibility of it building the road in return for certain land concessions in the northern section of the province, the implication being that to make the report public at this juncture might injure the negotiations in question.

The Times fails to see what this has to do with the immediate issue. Whatever the report contains, it is public property, since it has been paid for by the public. If it is not favorable to the project, that is all the more reason why its contents should be known at once. If, on the other hand, it is favorable, then, by the same token, the government should utilize every means at its disposal to let it be known in order to impress the English syndicate to which Dr. Tolmie referred yesterday—or any other parties interested.

We doubt, however, if this highway will be built during the lifetime of the present generation. There are many sterner matters that will command the attention of British Columbia for some years to come.

## PROMOTION EXPLAINED

Education Minister Tells Why Change Was Made in Text Books Branch

Why Peter Barr, former secretary to the Minister of Education, was promoted to take charge of the textbooks branch and the salary for the position was increased from \$2,320 to \$3,000 was explained in detail in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe when the estimates of his department were under review.

L. A. Hanna, Liberal, Alberni, asked the reason for the increase in the salary for the position.

The textbook branch had been enlarged so that books were now being supplied throughout the province and the work had increased, Mr. Hinchliffe said. Mr. Barr, who was previously his secretary, was in charge.

"Why was a change made?" Mr. Hanna asked.

"Is he your relative?" asked A. M. Manson.

#### ANTICIPATED QUESTIONS

Proceeding to answer the former question, Mr. Hinchliffe said he anticipated it. He had been bursting to give it. J. A. Anderson had been in charge of the branch for years. When he, Mr. Hinchliffe, took charge of the department, permanent officials told him sooner or later he would find it necessary to discharge Mr. Anderson. He did find it necessary to reprimand him once or twice. He was a returned soldier with a family and Mr. Hinchliffe did not want to discharge him. Mr. Anderson, however, took no notice of the reprimands and the minister was forced to tell him he would have to dispense with his services two years ago. After doing so, however, he told him he would give him his job back, but not because he deserved it.

"I do so for a selfish reason," I told him, said the minister. "It is because I would not be able to sleep thinking of you and your family." After that Mr. Anderson did well, and when the work of the branch was enlarged the minister pointed out the opportunity it offered him of justifying the faith the previous government had placed in him. But later complaints were received, and the minister was forced to discharge Mr. Anderson, he said. He produced letters in support of his statement regarding complaints.

Mr. Hinchliffe said he was compelled to put a new man in right away, as it was in the height of the school season. He had a suitable man at hand, and put him in the position.

Mr. Hinchliffe explained how the work of the textbook branch had been expanded and placed on a similar basis to the operations of the King's Printer. It was now possible for pupils in remote sections of British Columbia to obtain textbooks at the same price as students paid in the big cities.

Mr. Hinchliffe did not answer the question as to whether or not Mr. Barr was a relative of his.

#### REDISTRIBUTION—WHY?

To the Editor:—Why the sacrifice of the old constituency of Alberni? This district's annual forest and fishing production is more than the annual gold production of the Yukon territories and Alaska combined. Also consider that Alberni's West Coast fishing industry represents about one-third of the total fishing production in British Columbia.

Further, let us consider the basic resources of the following constituencies: Nanaimo, Alberni, Comox-Courtenay, Cowichan-Newcastle and Sooke. As a matter of fact, I believe the above Vancouver Island constituencies are the only ones producing a large net revenue to the provincial exchequer by contributing more than 50 per cent of British Columbia's coal mining, the total cement production of British Columbia, about 50 per cent of the fishing industry, 50 per cent of the sawmill products, 70 per cent of the logging industry and then about 75 per cent of all the export lumber and saw timber are the products of Vancouver Island. Eighty-five per cent of all British Columbia Douglas fir is located on Vancouver Island and is in the above-mentioned Island constituencies. Incidentally there are seven timber districts in British Columbia, the Vancouver timber district producing three times as much as all the other British Columbia districts combined.

The stand of timber in this Vancouver district is as follows: 100,000,000,000 feet on Vancouver Island, 15,000,000,000 feet on adjacent islands and less than 16,000,000,000 feet on the mainland. Yet this is all called the "Vancouver timber district." These particular figures are taken from the provincial forestry report of 1930, page aa17.

In view of the above, does it not seem strange that all timber shipments from British Columbia should be labeled "Vancouver timber"? Then in the event of a fire occurring on any Vancouver Island timber, it is necessary to phone the head forestry department at Vancouver for instructions. This overlapping Vancouver forestry department is costing the taxpayers of this province just about twice as much as the combined sessional indemnities of all the private members.

May I suggest, if we are going to have redistribution, let it be based somewhat on the above facts, that is the available resources and the net taxes and revenue derived from each constituency.

P. K. WINCH.  
929 North Park Street, Victoria, B.C.  
March 31, 1932.

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# CONSERVATIVES REFUSE TO RECALL MCGEOUGH

## Liberals Outspoken When Twigg's Vote Bars More Evidence From Officer

Unemployment Relief Committee of Legislature Decides Not to Have Dominion Relief Officer Back on Stand

"Travesty," Replies  
Opposition Leader

Manson Hurls His Papers  
Length of Table and Tells  
Berry He Had Better Be  
Careful Or He Might Go  
Out Window; Pattullo Says  
Government Seeks Alibi

M. H. McGeough, federal director of unemployment relief in British Columbia, will not be permitted to appear again to complete his evidence before the unemployment relief committee of the Legislature.

This decision was taken by the committee to-day as a result of a motion put by Dr. R. W. Alward, Conservative, member for Fort George, to the effect that it was not necessary for the committee to recall Mr. McGeough.

T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, said that F. H. Harrison, chief accountant of the provincial Department of Public Works, yesterday had charged the Dominion Government's official with being "crooked," and Mr. McGeough should be recalled. There was also the fact that Mr. McGeough had been asked by the committee to obtain certain documents from Ottawa and bring them before the committee.

"I do not pay much attention to what Mr. Harrison said as it seems to be a personal matter between Mr. Harrison and Mr. McGeough," said T. H. Kirk, Conservative member for Vancouver.

H. D. Twigg, chairman of the committee, advised Mr. Pattullo not to get excited as "apparently the majority of the committee don't want to see Mr. McGeough here again."

The vote on the Alward motion was four to four, on straight party lines. Mr. Twigg declared it carried by casting the chairman's vote against recalling Mr. McGeough.

### A TRAVESTY

"This whole relief investigation is turning out to be just a travesty," said Mr. Pattullo.

"It is worse, the whole thing is an abortion," said A. M. Manson, Liberal member of Omineca.

"I don't see any particular object in sticking around here now if things are going to be conducted this way," Mr. Manson went on, arising and throwing his papers the length of the committee table.

J. W. Perry, Conservative of Ladner, sitting next to Mr. Manson, got into a personal altercation with him, which ended with Mr. Manson declaring Mr. Berry had better take care of what he said or he would be thrown out of the window.

Chairman Twigg a couple of times cautioned Mr. Pattullo and Mr. Manson, declaring that he was running the committee.

### WORKING UP AN ALIBI

"No you are not," replied Mr. Pattullo. "That's just where you are mistaken. This is a committee and you are only chairman. This whole thing is just a travesty now. The government is going ahead calling what witnesses it wants to bolster up the case in its defence, while witnesses we have asked for weeks ago have not been summoned. The government is just trying to work up an alibi for itself."

Bidney A. West, accountant for the Deroche camp, took the stand and testified that Mr. McGeough was not right when he testified that under the provincial administration 104 men were being carried on the payroll as carpenters, but inspection revealed only four or five working. Mr. West said that the highest number of carpenters at the camp was seventy-nine and on October 16, the day about which Mr. McGeough complained, only forty-seven carpenters were being carried.

Mr. West produced the time books from the camp.

Mr. Manson asked why the rates of pay were filled in for some men at the camp, while blanks were left in the case of others.

### WAY TO KEEP SECRET

"It was not considered policy to let everyone running in know what each man at the camp was getting," replied Mr. West. "I am only giving that as a possible explanation. It was thought not advisable to insert the rates of pay because of others coming up and seeing them."

"That is the best answer you have got for some time," Mr. Berry commented to Mr. Manson.

"I instructed the timekeepers to keep out of sight any information that was not for general distribution," Mr. West went on.

Mr. Manson said he wanted to know why the rate of pay in the time book was set down for some men and not for others. Pointing to one page, he asserted the names of thirteen men were there with the rate of pay set down opposite their names, while there were four others with the rate of pay not given.

"On making up the payroll we know what each man's rate of pay is," Mr. West replied.

### FAILS TO SEE LOGIC

"I can't see the logic of showing the rate of pay for some and not for others," said Mr. Manson.

Mr. Berry said that in one book he was examining the rate of pay was listed for every man.

"How is it that these books are filled in complete for some camps and not for other camps?" Mr. Berry asked.

Mr. West explained it was because of different timekeepers. In reply to questions, he said no instructions had been received from the department not to fill in the forms as sent out.

Mr. Manson asked the rate of pay for the first man on the sheet left with a blank. His name was Matt Clark.

Mr. West replied that his rate was \$8 a day.

Mr. Manson asked about the rate for a man listed as A. West.

Mr. West replied that it was \$135 a month, but this was subsequently varied by reduction to \$80 a month.

Senior Timekeeper Dean's rate of pay was \$110 a month, Mr. West went on, taking up the next name with the rate of pay left blank. He explained that the salaries had been varied two or three times.

Mr. Berry protested against this examination and said he wanted to put a closure on Mr. Manson.

This produced a wordy row which took Chairman Twigg a couple of minutes to get quieted down so the committee could go on.

### DISCOVER A COMMITTEE

In reply to questions from George S. Pearson, Liberal for Nanaimo, Mr. West testified that he had nothing to do with the men who were paid higher than \$2 a day. He said these men came up to the camp through the employment office or through the committee.

"What committee?" asked Mr. Pearson.

"There was a committee in Dewdney and one in Yale which passed on eligibility," Mr. West replied.

"Who was on that committee?" asked Mr. Pearson.

"I don't know," Mr. West replied.

Mr. Pearson said he wanted to know whether the jobs in the relief camps were given to unemployed men or to others.

Mr. West replied he did not know.

"In ten time-books here from October 1 to October 15, I find the names of some 200 persons who have been receiving \$4 a day or better," said Mr. Manson.

"The names may occur more than once in the time-book," Mr. West replied. "But in October there were never more than seventy-nine carpenters on any one day."

Mr. Manson asked whether these carpenters were drawn from the ranks of the unemployed.

"I had nothing to do with the employment of the men," Mr. West replied.

Mr. Manson said he was trying to find out what qualifications men had for drawing carpenters' pay.

### NOT ALL DESTITUTE

Asked by Mr. Manson about the number of men in the Deroche camps who were not registered as destitute, Mr. West replied there were possibly ten or twelve, including such men as the engineer in charge, the resident engineers, the general foreman and such key men, but the assistant foreman and the timekeepers were registered as destitute.

"We have had a half-dozen men who came up and were not registered as unemployed and in these cases I have communicated with Dr. Scharschmidt," Mr. West went on. "Every time a man has come up without being registered, I have reported it."

"Dr. Scharschmidt was 'tory organizer,'" said Mr. Pattullo.

"I want to know whether that is a disreputable profession, to be a party organizer," said Mr. Berry.

### AN HONOR

"I think that it is quite an honor," said Mr. Kirk.

Mr. Pearson declared the question before the committee really was whether too much money was being paid to experts for supervision in relief camps and not enough money used to relieve destitution.

Major Robert Miller Taylor, public works engineer engaged on relief work supervision along the Transcanada Highway, took the stand and swore that the report in the House of Commons at Ottawa to the effect that 50,000 blankets had been bought by the B.C. relief camp administration was wrong, as only 7,700 pairs of new blankets had been bought and 820 pair of second-hand blankets.

Asked by Brigadier-General J. A. Clark, committee counsel, about the charges before the committee that cooks in the camps at Big Bend had thrown away and burned up half the meat, Major Taylor said he had had meals at the camp and had never heard of any bad meat. He said the meals there were as good as anywhere. He also said he had never heard about too much meat being sent to the camp.

so that the cooks to get rid of it had to burn it.

He also said he knew nothing about old sows being supplied to the camp at ten cents a pound.

### MADE A COMPLAINT

Asked about the charges arising over the cook house being equipped with home utensils so that they had to be thrown out and new camp size equipment bought and brought up, Major Taylor said:

"At the start I made a complaint to the purchasing agent that many of the post and plans that were coming up were too small."

Question about the statement in the House of Commons by A. W. Neil, M.P. for Comox-Alberni, to the effect that the camps constructed under the British Columbia Government were luxuriously fitted up with hot and cold running water and showers, Major Taylor replied that hot and cold showers were provided, according to specifications. The cost of these showers would be only about \$7 for material for each shower and each shower would take care of twenty to twenty-five men.

In regard to statements in the House of Commons that so many wheelbarrows were bought there that there was a wheelbarrow for each man and that men had to be hired to keep track of the wheelbarrows, Major Taylor testified that on the basis of 25,000 men working in the camps there would be one wheelbarrow for every tenth man and one cross-cut saw for every seventeenth. But this would not hold true of every camp, as, in certain camps because of the nature of the work, there might be a wheelbarrow for every man, but in other camps where the work was different there might be few or no wheelbarrows.

The statement of Thomas Reid, M.P. of New Westminster, in the House of Commons that after equipping one camp in a lavish manner it was found there was no water supply for the camp, was referred to Major Taylor. He said he knew the camp referred to. It was at Sunnyside. They had had difficulty in getting water there, after they had dug a well which had gone dry.

"Why did they not call in the government's water diviner?" asked Mr. Pattullo.

"They did, and the results showed water there very strongly," said Mr. Berry.

Before the committee adjourned until Monday morning, Chairman Twigg made a statement disclaiming any discourtesy to Harold Brown, of the Vancouver Board of Trade, who had been asked to appear before a special session of the committee before the opening of the House two days ago. He explained that Mr. Brown had been notified the sitting would be at 1:30 o'clock, but when the members could not be got together at that time, he sent a message to Mr. Brown cancelling the hour set. However, that message apparently had not reached Mr. Brown. The result was that Mr. Brown went to the Parliament Buildings at



Friday, April 1, 1932.

1.30 o'clock and waited for a committee that was not called. Mr. Twigg said he wanted to assure Mr. Brown, in view of what had appeared in the Vancouver press regarding the incident, that no discourtesy was meant to him and that the explanation would clear up the matter.

## HEALERS' BILL STIRS DOUBTS

Qualifications Should Be Carefully Checked, Says A. M. Manson

Thinks Medical Act Should Be Broadened to Cover All Practitioners

Serious warnings against giving powers to druggists which were beyond their qualifications were voiced in the Legislature yesterday by A. M. Manson, K.C., during the second reading of the Drugless Healers Bill.

While attention has been drawn to the fact that there are sections in the bill and also in the Chiropractors' Bill which cannot be included without the consent of the government the discussion proceeded pending an announcement from Premier Tolmie. It is thought probably they will be allowed to go to a free vote of the Legislature.

Mr. Manson was prepared to admit that there were a few druggists who had good qualifications and were prepared to recognize their limitations in the treatment of disease, the sin rested with those who would not confine themselves to treatments they were experienced enough to give.

### IN HEALING BRANCHES

"In Vancouver I could quote shocking cases of men who have put up shingles as druggists and who have practiced and practised at a cost of human life," he said. The Medical Act should be widened, he thought, to permit those to come under it who were reasonably qualified in certain branches of healing and they should be confined to those branches. In this connection he mentioned electrical therapy, massage, herb medicines and dietitians. A knowledge of anatomy through years of study was necessary to diagnose disease and diagnosis was necessary for treatment. To give inexperienced persons the right to treat infectious and contagious diseases was a menace to society.

If the Medical Act could not embrace practitioners who could render useful service along certain branches of healing, Mr. Manson thought it should be widened to do so. It was not a closed act; it was an act for the public good. Every practitioner of any character who could do some good in the healing of the human body should come under it, but care should be taken to rule out impostors who without knowledge of healing were prepared to take money from gullible people and give nothing in return. The speaker quoted from the Murphy report to strengthen his argument that no separate legislation was necessary, and in this connection claimed chiropractic and sahpractic treatments were methods known to the medical profession and used by them in the course of general treatment.

J. Loutet adjourned the debate. Amendments to the Medical Act giving the Medical Council powers to subpoena witnesses in case of an inquiry under the act were passed. Other sections, the effectiveness of which depends upon the fate of the Chiropractors' Bill, were stood over.

## GASOLINE TAX GOES THROUGH

Good progress was made on bills in the Legislature yesterday. The gasoline tax became law with Opposition members voicing a lusty "No." It only now awaits the signature of the Lieutenant-Governor.

The Vancouver Corporation Bill giving powers for short term financing passed second reading without debate.

## VIEWS CLASH ON SIXTEEN YEARS AS SCHOOL LIMIT

Parents Should Pay Beyond That Age, Hayward Tells Legislature

MINISTER SAYS CITIES SHOULD ECONOMIZE

School Best Place With No Jobs Going, Say Other Members

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, Minister of Education, was accused of trying to restrict educational facilities and shift governmental costs on to the shoulders of municipalities during a debate in the Legislature yesterday on the question of continuing to give free education to children over sixteen.

"My honorable friend believes nobody over sixteen should go to school," said T. D. Pattullo, Leader of the Opposition, "whereas under present industrial conditions the demand for education is greater than ever."

"And if these conditions last for two or three years shall we keep these young men in school year after year until they are nineteen or twenty?" asked Mr. Hinchliffe. "If so, we shall have to reorganize the whole system."

"If people want their children to go to school after sixteen they should pay for them," argued R. Hayward, Victoria, Conservative.

"What the world needs is more education," said Mr. Pattullo. "Those who are fighting to restrict education are fighting a losing battle."

A. M. Manson, K.C., Ominca, Liberal, argued that the question was whether boys and girls of sixteen should be turned out into the streets with no employment available or allowed to continue for a year or two improving their education.

"To turn them loose to-day simply means making more human wreckage," he contended. "I believe in economizing, but we must have regard to fundamentals. Too much of our crime to-day is committed by these young people of sixteen and seventeen. It would be fortunate for them and for society if they were kept in school under discipline."

Jack Loutet, North Vancouver, Conservative, said he did not believe under present conditions in providing extra accommodation for these over-age children, but commended such work as that of the Canadian Forestry Association in giving occupation to boys and making men of them.

### JOB IS IMPORTANT

"The important thing is to get a job for these boys," he concluded.

"We have had two years of the government trying to get jobs for married men with families," replied Mr. Manson. "What chance has a boy of sixteen?"

Mr. Hayward said the over-age high school students were not children of indigent parents and their families could pay.

"That may be true in Victoria, but in a large industrial centre like Vancouver many parents cannot afford to pay," said Mr. Manson.

Col. Nelson Spencer, Vancouver, Conservative, concluded this phase of the discussion by commending the Minister of Education for his "sane and reasonable" attitude in regard to education financing.

"It is the wherewithal that's being considered now," he said.

The discussion followed comment upon the reductions from \$80,000 to \$57,000 in the vote for free textbooks, from \$1,600,000 to \$1,400,000 in the grant in aid of teachers' salaries and the elimination of the \$17,000 vote in aid of technical and vocational education.

The minister denied that the cut in teachers' grants and the allowances for manual training, etc., simply unloaded that much cost on the municipalities.

"They can economize to that extent," he said.

"Thereby reducing the quality and extent of the education system," caustically commented Mr. Pattullo.

### MANUAL TRAINING

On the question of manual training Mr. Hinchliffe claimed the department had laid down no policy, but was reminded that he had initiated the suggestion of council control.

"Why have you not laid down a policy? That is the minister's function," declared Mr. Pattullo.

Mr. Hinchliffe said he had accepted Wells Gray's suggestion of a consultation among school trustees, councils and the government.

"The minister is backing and filling on this issue," said Mr. Pattullo, "keeping the trustees running to and fro. The matter is settled one day and unsettled the next. This is costing the school boards money."

Mr. Hinchliffe said he had definitely refused to place the school boards under the thumb of the councils, but with regard to technical training and similar features had thrown the matter open for discussion.

"To bring the boards a little bit under the thumbs of the councils," interjected Mr. Pattullo.

Mr. Hinchliffe said if the councils and trustee boards failed to settle the issue he would.

Mr. Gray said the Union of Municipalities had had no opportunity to consider the question since the minister had raised it, but he and the president were opposed to it, as were many others. It could not affect this year's budgets in any event, as the estimates had been completed, as required by law, on February 15.

## PROSPECTORS ELIMINATED

Oil Lease Measure Creates Wealthy Man's Monopoly, Says Manson

Province May Lose Valuable Prospective Resources Along P.G.E. Line

Following along the lines of arguments of T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, advanced the previous day, A. M. Manson, K.C., criticized the bill relating to petroleum and natural gas leases as one that tended to create a monopoly in oil for men of wealth in British Columbia and freeze out the prospector.

Mr. Manson also suspected the bill, sponsored by Hon. N. S. Loughheed, showed the government contemplated giving away substantial oil areas along the line of the P.G.E. to induce capitalists to take over the line and to give away subsidy lands without the consent of the Legislature.

Prospectors had contributed millions to the wealth of this province, Mr. Manson said. It was not good business to put anything on the statute books which would narrow their field, and proposed legislation made it impossible for anyone but a man of wealth to stake an oil claim. He cited the oil monopoly of the United States and claimed Mr. Loughheed was inviting just such a thing in Canada instead of guarding against it.

L. A. Hanna adjourned the debate.

## WANTS STRIKE LAW ABOLISHED

Labor Member Calls For Repeal of Section 98 of Criminal Code

Repeal of Section 98 of the Criminal Code, under which strike agitators have been imprisoned, is advocated in a motion to be brought before the Legislature, to-day by Thomas Uphill, Labor, Fernie.

Mr. Uphill points out that the section was formulated during the Winnipeg general strike of 1919. Its repeal has since been called for by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada and other bodies. Claiming it presumes the guilt of an accused until he proves his innocence and a wide interpretation of it would make it applicable to trade unions or any organization challenging the efficacy of modern society, the Labor member asks the Legislature to petition Ottawa for the removal of the section.

## Across The Bay

It is deadly dull and respectable in the House as March goes out—the lamb and the lion, in deference to the season, lie down together—the lawyers co-operate—and Mr. Hinchliffe comes smiling through.

By H.B.W.

MARCH went out of the Legislature Thursday like a sadder and a wiser lamb. It went out with a dullness most profound, most unfortunate for those who record the House's doings, but comforting withal to the taxpayers. It was the dullness, you see, of high endeavor and self-denial after a terrible lapse into politics on the previous day. In this lamblike atmosphere of March's end there was nothing of interest, but there was a good deal of quiet business which, heaven knows, is necessary if we are to get out of here before the middle of April.

LOOKING over the order paper at the end of the day, and contemplating the great mass of business yet to appear, whips thought we might be out by a week from to-day—that is, with luck and a friendly opposition. Without either we can't get out next week. For it is still true, even after all this time, that the big business of the session, the most contentious business, has yet to be done. It has yet to be introduced. For all we know, it has yet to be decided finally in those dim, shadowy regions of state where such things are decided.

THE FIRST business of Thursday was to pass Capt. Fitzsimmons's motion, which recommends that somehow, somewhere, something be done about stabilizing silver some time. Capt. Fitzsimmons has struggled valiantly for two years to help the silver industry of this province. He has struggled against pretty heavy odds, including the entire monetary system of the world and most of its governments. But he has not despaired. He wants the Imperial Conference to take up the silver question and, after he had made a modest and plain speech on the subject, the House backed him unanimously.

MR. POOLEY followed with a series of new bills which he had the honor of presenting fresh from Government House, one after the other. Then Mr. Manson held the floor with an extremely able speech on drugless healing and public health, which showed his powers as an advocate perhaps to better advantage even than his utterances as a politician.

MR. MANSON'S argument, which you could accept or not as you pleased, was that while the House had no moral right to stop a man doing what he liked with himself, even if he wanted to jump into the harbor, it had to protect society from the consequences of any such act; it had to protect society, for example, from the spread of infectious diseases, even if people who had them were prepared to take treatment from incompetent practitioners. This, of course, was only the beginning of a long argument over the drugless healers' bill, which will be followed by another on the chiropractors' bill, of which Mr. Manson is the chief antagonist.

IT WAS a lawyer's day altogether. The lawyers made good progress with complicated legislation, the details of which are by no means clear to everyone. At one stage, indeed, we beheld the remarkable spectacle of Mr. Twigg and Mr. Manson, heads together, amiably sorting out some of the tangled threads of litigation—truly the March lion lying down with the March lamb.

THE MARCH had the person of J. Hinchliffe had bro of his education c spection, and in is so fleet of foot lions of the opposi est difficulty in eve him. We spent th noon trying to ch Hinchliffe and wh occasionally we n overhauling him.

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# Affairs of Liquor Board Under Fire In B.C. Legislature

Attorney-General Pooley Claims Economies While A. M. Manson, K.C., Charges Extravagance; Caucus Forced Cutting Down of Board

CHAIRMAN UNDER FIRE FOR POLITICAL ACTIVITY

Power to Close Parlor on Dry Vote Always Existed, Says Manson; Amendment Referred to as "Humbug"

An amendment to the Liquor Control Act to provide for a vote to rule out beer parlors in districts where they are now established, was introduced in the Legislature yesterday when the bill amending the Liquor Act was under discussion during second reading.

The amendment, which was not included in the original bill brought down by Attorney-General Pooley earlier in the session, is in line with the announcement he made that such legislation would be introduced when the petition against beer parlors was in circulation in Esquimalt some months ago. It calls for fifty-five per cent of the total vote to be against beer parlors to close them.

The other amendment provides for a liquor board of any number of members, from one to three, but the Attorney-General declined to commit himself as to whether the board would be reduced to one member.

## CRITICIZES CHAIRMAN

A. M. Manson, K.C., attacked the new beer parlor amendment as "humbug," claiming the power to take another vote and close beer parlors already existed. He also launched criticism against H. B. Thomson, chairman of the Liquor Board, for alleged political activity, for taking part in municipal elections, apparently referring to the recent Saanich election, and for giving articles and interviews on liquor control to United States papers.

When Mr. Manson approved of the way being prepared for a one-man board, he urged the Attorney-General to take the House into his confidence and say if a one-man board were to be established, but was told by Mr. Pooley to have patience and learn.

He also urged the Attorney-General to put the liquor administration back in the hands of the Legislature, assuring him that from his own experience he was storing up trouble for himself when he placed it under his own department. Mr. Manson said he did not object to the government putting in a political friend, if they had a one-man board, provided he was a capable, experienced man. Anyone who objected to a political friend being appointed under a party system of government was not facing the facts. But the \$30,000 board was an unnecessary expense. A first-class man could be secured at the present time who would do the job for \$7,000.

## COMPARES COST

Supporting his contention that the present three-man commission, drawing salaries of \$30,000 a year, had been a costly and retrogressive step, Mr. Manson compared the costs of the administration under the present board with the 1929 administrative costs.

Administrative salaries had increased from \$38,000 to \$52,000. Printing and stationery were up from \$5,000 to \$18,000.

Total head office expenses had increased from \$61,000 to \$117,000, an increase of \$56,000 on a declining volume of business.

Administrative costs in 1929 were 42 per cent of the turn-over, he said, the lowest of any liquor board in Canada.

For 1931 the costs were 64 per cent, or almost half as much again.

This was a scandalous administration for a board drawing down \$30,000 a year, he declared.

One reason why the printing cost had gone up, he said, was the board was printing and broadcasting political propaganda at the expense of the public. He exhibited a blue leaflet republishing an editorial from The Colonist lauding the present liquor policy.

## "GETTING RELIEF"

Mr. Manson said he had every respect for two members of the board, but saw no reason why they should be given unemployment relief at \$7,500 a year. "There are altogether too many political friends of this government getting relief at more than \$2.00 a day," he said.

When Mr. Thomson, the chairman, was criticized for meddling in municipal and provincial politics on behalf of the government, Mr. Pooley sharply denied that Mr. Thomson's political activities had been directed by the government.

"The government should tell him to keep out of such matters," replied Mr. Manson, who also said it was improper for a paid official to make public statements about policy. He specifically said British Columbia taxpayers who believed in prohibition objected to paying the salary of a public official to go into the United States making speeches and writing articles against prohibition in favor of government control.

"That is a matter of policy which is for ministers, not salaried officials to discuss," said Mr. Manson.

Mr. Pooley, on his part, claimed the present board had made economies, saving \$18,000 a year in breakages, \$17,000 a year in freights, and \$5,000 a year on insurance. He suggested there was something peculiar about the insurance premiums paid by the former commissioners.

"Are you insuring in board companies?" asked A. M. Manson.

"Yes," replied Mr. Pooley.

"Board rates are fixed, and the same for all," said Mr. Manson.

"That's what makes it so peculiar," said Mr. Pooley. "Perhaps the fact that the insurance was written by a political friend may have something to do with it."

Altogether, Mr. Pooley said, the new board had saved \$350,000 a year. Mr. Manson said they might have made some savings in particular fields, but the total cost of administration had gone up.

In commenting on the reduction in number of commissioners, Mr. Manson said that the move was being taken under duress of the Conservative caucus whose members could not go back to their constituents and justify the \$30,000 salaries. "All honor to the caucus for effecting this economy," he said.

Thomas Uphill, Labor, Fernie, thought a thirty-five per cent registration to call for a plebiscite was not sufficient. He thought also there should be more than a fifty-five per cent vote against beer parlors to close them. It would be found there would be a poorer class of beer parlor if they did not know from month to month how long they were to remain open.

# UNEMPLOYMENT APPROPRIATION

Provision for unemployment should be placed in the estimates, A. M. Manson claimed in the Legislature yesterday in noting that \$100,000 included in the estimates of the Department of Public Works last year had not been included this year.

He frowned upon the policy of leaving it to be covered by special warrants, claiming the Legislature should pass upon the matter. It should be possible now to form some idea of what would be required for relief. If the circumstances made it clear that more was required later the opposition members would join in making a supplementary vote. It was not fair to charge it to posterity by a loan bill for fifteen years.

# BUDGET NOT HELD TO BLAME

Is Not Cause of Municipal Act Amendments, Loutet and Hayward Claim

The budget had nothing to do whatever with amendments to the Municipal Act giving them the right to increase tax levies R. Hayward, Conservative, North Vancouver, said after Attorney-General Pooley had spoken on second reading of the bill in the Legislature yesterday.

Mr. Pooley said the power to increase the tax levy for general purposes from twenty to thirty-five mills was a temporary measure to meet unusual circumstances. They had been given powers to hypothecate sinking funds to the bank because some municipalities had invested in long term sinking funds and long term bonds were not readily saleable.

One reason, Mr. Pattullo claimed for the extra taxation powers was because the government had curtailed the amount the municipalities ordinarily received as grants. They had objected but because the government had not relented they had been forced to apply for extra taxation rights.

The amendments contained had been sought by the municipalities, Mr. Hayward said. The act was changed every year to meet changing conditions. Last year the municipalities received greater grants than they had received under any administration, but because of conditions general throughout the country they had been going deeper into debt.

# TO BORROW \$7,500,000

Loan Act Tabled in B.C. Legislature Yesterday

The Loan Act tabled in the Legislature yesterday provides for borrowing \$7,500,000. Of this \$400,000 is for roads and bridges, chiefly the continued construction of the Big Bend Highway, and

## \$100,000 for irrigation financing.

The sum of \$7,000,000 is for consolidated revenue. The Finance Minister announced in his budget speech it was to pay off deficits. The bill also mentions unemployment relief as one of the purposes for which it may be used.

The Taxation Act is being delayed, it is understood, because of certain detailed revisions prompted by vigorous protests from large industries against the effect of the proposals announced in the budget speech. The budget debate ended more than a week ago, and it is usual for the finance measures to be tabled immediately thereafter, but the delay of so long a time indicates that the government's policy is undergoing remodelling to some extent.

## GRAND JURIES AFFECTED

Amendments to the Jury Act, anticipating federal action to eliminate grand juries in British Columbia, and providing for consequent changes in the existing act to give effect to that, were introduced by Attorney-General Pooley, without discussion. The act would come into effect on royal proclamation. The federal measure, sought at the request of the province, has already passed Upper and Lower Houses, and awaits royal assent, it is understood.

With those sections to which exception had been taken redrafted, and offending clauses otherwise removed, the second Chiropractors' Bill made its appearance, through Reginald Hayward (Conservative, Victoria). The main purport of the bill is the same as in the original measure.

THE MARCH here appeared later in the person of Mr. Hinchliffe. Mr. Hinchliffe had brought the estimates of his education department for inspection, and in such argument he is so fleet of foot that the lambs and lions of the opposition have the greatest difficulty in ever catching up with him. We spent the rest of the afternoon trying to catch up with Mr. Hinchliffe and while we sighted him occasionally we never succeeded in overhauling him.

IN HIS BEST humor, Mr. Hinchliffe piloted through his estimates with a smile instead of the other more deadly weapon which he can use on occasion. Possibly the House has had its fill of such things and the classes in ancient political history, recently conducted by a group of eminent members on both sides, were discontinued. That at least was a relief. Instead, we stuck to Mr. Hinchliffe's estimates and temporarily let the dead past bury its dead.

THE FEW encounters between Mr. Hinchliffe and Mr. Hanna, the opposition's educational expert, undoubtedly would have led to shocking upheavals of old dirt on the previous day but, in this improved atmosphere, this lamblike atmosphere of the end of March, they were turned off on Mr. Hinchliffe's remarkable good nature. No trouble was too great for him if it would satisfy Mr. Pattullo, no explanation too long, no research too laborious.

WHEN MR. PATTULLO ventured to think that the Honorable Minister of Education did not understand all the intricacies of finance, Mr. Hinchliffe replied, with a mildness too mild to be quite without guile, that this was true, since he hadn't fraternized, as Mr. Pattullo had done, with the financial barons of Wall Street—a subtle reference to Mr. Pattullo's alleged Wall Street friends about whom the government loves, for some curious reason, to talk on every possible occasion. Anyway, Mr. Pattullo replied that

he had indeed been to Wall Street and had learned so much there that he was now able to instruct Mr. Jones in the higher arts of finance. That, too, was why he was able to analyze the finances of the government and pronounce them grossly extravagant.

WITH A GOOD-NATURE which nothing, not even Mr. Pattullo, could ruffle, Mr. Hinchliffe said Mr. Pattullo was evidently following the system of the late Dr. Coue, in the belief that if he called the government extravagant several times a day, after a while the people would believe it. Mr. Hinchliffe added that later on he proposed to go about the country telling the people about the extravagance of Mr. Pattullo's government. This remark threatened to plunge us into another afternoon of exhumation and inquest but happily Mr. Hinchliffe did not pursue it, and we went on quietly enough.

THERE APPEARED to be a genuine interest on both sides in educational matters which probably would prove surprising and encouraging to the electors. Mr. Manson, for example, made an impressive plea for that unhappy generation of boys who are leaving school these days and finding no work. He proposed that, instead of discouraging them from further studies, the state help them to stay in school and educate themselves further, until work was available. At which point Mr. King, of Columbia, fell backwards out of his chair, but whether because he was impressed too much by his colleague from Omineca, or was slumbering at the wrong angle, the official record, the Votes and Proceedings, did not state.



# Vote Against Beer Parlors Is Provided For

## GAME BOARD COST AIRED

Pooley Embarrassed as Manson Quotes Budget to Prove \$150,000 Jump

Attorney-General Finds an Explanation By Evening Session

After Attorney-General Pooley had entered a vigorous denial to what he termed wild and extravagant statements of A. M. Manson, K.C., that costs of the game branch had increased by \$150,000, he was embarrassed in the Legislature yesterday when Mr. Manson substantiated his charge by quoting the Jones budget of 1931.

For the time, Mr. Pooley seemed astounded. He had no reply ready and the opposition members delighted in his discomfiture. By the evening session, Mr. Pooley had an explanation which, however, failed to satisfy Mr. Manson and further debate on the subject is assured.

After H. D. Twigg, acting as Speaker at the time, had over-ridden the protest of Mr. Manson that Mr. Pooley was out of order in attempting to discuss administration of the Game Department at that junction, Mr. Pooley proceeded to quote figures to show that the cost of game administration had jumped from \$220,411 in 1927-28 to \$293,945 in the year just closed, an increase of roughly \$13,000. Mr. Manson came back and, to Mr. Pooley's surprise, quoted Mr. Pooley's figures and the Jones budget to prove his own assertions.

The Attorney-General claimed that statements of the member for Omineca that the cost of game administration had increased by \$150,000 were so wild and extravagant that he was entitled to correct them at the first opportunity. A wrong impression had gone abroad when it had been said a wonderful saving could be effected in the game administration. There were sixty-three game wardens in the province. The whole strength was sixty-eight. Thirty of the men were returned men and forty-nine of the sixty-three were transferred to the game branch from the police department. Game wardens did other fine work in assisting the police.

Mr. Manson sent out for a copy of the 1931 Jones budget. Under the head of "analysis expenditures, game protection," he read a table which justified his charges of increased expenditures of the branch, remarking, "I know it's awfully embarrassing, but I can't help that," as Mr. Pooley was plainly puzzled.

The table Mr. Manson quoted reads as follows: 1922-3, \$70,611; 1923-4, \$39,131; 1924-5, \$55,083; 1925-6, \$76,507; 1926-7, \$76,414; 1927-8, \$73,380; 1928-9, \$84,281.

### THEN IT JUMPED

"My friend was in charge for the nine months of the last year when it jumped from \$73,000 to \$84,000," Mr. Manson remarked. "Then it jumped from \$84,000 in the first year of the present Attorney-General's administration to \$228,381 the next year. I doubt if my friend the Finance Minister has been quite just to the Attorney-General." Mr. Manson proceeded on another comment, but sat down with a smile as Mr. Pooley, who by this time had secured a copy of the figures which apparently came as such a surprise, went into a huddle with the Finance Minister about them.

"What need is there to say anything else?" Mr. Manson asked.

By the evening session, Attorney-General Pooley was prepared with an answer. The figure of \$73,380 for game protection in 1927-8, as quoted from the budget by Mr. Manson was correct, he said. But in another section of the budget would be found an item dealing with police game enforcement, \$147,030, which Mr. Manson had not quoted.

"From your statement," said Dr. W. H. Sutherland, Liberal, Revelstoke, "it would appear the budget printed by the Minister of Finance was not correct."

Mr. Pooley admitted that to an ordinary individual it might be misleading, but claimed Mr. Manson was not misled.

Mr. Pooley in turn was not giving the information fairly. He was including bounties, Mr. Manson said. The Minister of Finance was correct, Mr. Manson said, and intimated that later he, (Mr. Manson), would prove the claim he had made at the afternoon session was fair.

The bill before the house provided for a dollar increase in gun licenses and for a dollar license for anglers over the age of sixteen years.

T. D. Pattullo commented on the constant increase in taxation.

Dr. H. C. Wrinch commended the idea of breeding ponds for fish which had prompted the dollar anglers' license, but he pointed out the cost of a part-time official and the establishment and upkeep of the breeding ponds would only amount to \$5,000 or \$6,000 a year, and to raise this every angler in the province was to be called upon to pay a dollar tax.

## ROAD VOTES FOR 1932-3

Presented to Legislature Yesterday By Minister of Public Works

Votes for maintenance of roads, bridges, ferries and wharves presented to the Legislature yesterday by Hon. R. W. Bruhn, Minister of Public Works, are as follows:

Districts	Allocated
Alberni	\$5,000
Atlin	27,000
Burnaby	12,000
Cariboo	60,000
Chilliwack	30,000
Columbia	34,000
Comox	44,000
Cowichan-Newcastle	36,000
Cranbrook	38,000
Creston	55,000
Delta	28,000
Dewdney	52,000
Foulmait	52,000
Fernie	32,000
Fort George	52,000
Grand Forks-Greenwood	42,000
Islands	25,000
Kamloops	45,000
Kaslo-Slocan	55,000
Lilloet	50,000
Mackenzie	32,000
Nanaimo	6,000
Okanagan, North	40,000
Okanagan, South	40,000
Nelson	2,000
New Westminster	2,000
Omineca	46,000
Peace River	30,000
Prince Rupert	20,000
Revelstoke	34,000
Richmond-Point Grey	12,000
Rossland-Trail	18,000
Saanich	22,000
Salmon Arm	45,000
Similkameen	40,000
Skeena	40,000
Vancouver, North	8,000
Yale	45,000
Cariboo Highway	\$21,000
Less Est. Rev.	20,000
Total Roads	\$1,287,000
Bridges	340,000
Ferries	\$322,000
Less Est. Rev.	32,000
Wharves	200,000
Surveys	7,500
Traffic Operation, Snow Removal, etc.	2,000
Contingencies	30,000
Total	\$1,956,000

## PICTURE QUOTA BILL IS DELAYED AGAIN

Strengthening the prediction the Moving Pictures Quota Bill will not be proceeded with this session, J. W. Cornett, Conservative whip, who adjourned the debate on the second reading, again moved it be stood over when it was called in the Legislature yesterday.

## Continue Fight On B.C. Oil Monopoly

Large Corporation Will Control B.C. Wells, Opposition Claims

LEASE BILL PASSES SECOND READING

Province Should Develop Wells Itself, Says Hanna

Hon. N. S. Loughheed's bill respecting petroleum and natural gas leases, which opposition members attacked as creating a wealthy man's monopoly on prospective valuable oilfields of the province, passed second reading on a straight party division in the Legislature yesterday, with A. M. Manson, K.C., commenting "Standard Oil Government."

Views on the bill were in direct contrast. While Dr. H. C. Wrinch, Liberal, Skeena, claimed it paved the way to dispossess a private owner, turn the leases over to large corporations and permit them to cap wells, Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe claimed the bill gave the government to decide whether development was expedient or not was to prevent this very thing.

### FREEZES OUT PROSPECTORS

L. A. Hanna, Liberal, Alberni, in a careful analysis of the bill, agreed with previous arguments of opposition members that the bill froze out the prospectors and put the oil business in the hands of wealthy men. The dividing of claims into forty acres with one to be retained by the prospector and one to be turned over to the Crown, presented a problem in mountainous uneven British Columbia that it was almost impossible for a prospector to carry out. The initial deposit of fifty cents an acre was heavy on a prospector seeking to register more than one lease. The cancellation sections were not clear enough.

The powers given the minister to reduce rentals left the way open for favoritism. The Crown should not be tied down to twelve and a half cents royalty and should provide for fluctuating prices.

### GAS PRICE CONTROL

While such legislation was under consideration the Crown should seize the opportunity of exercising a measure of control over gasoline prices. In this connection he commented high gasoline prices were tying up British Columbia shipping fleets. United States boats got gasoline at five cents a gallon to compete with Canadian fishermen paying twenty to twenty-four cents.

Mr. Hanna also suggested that the government should consider the development of oil itself. "Produce the wealth for British Columbia instead of handing over to some large companies to produce it for the stockholders," he urged. "Before giving any part of it away consider developing it for the government and the people generally. Thereby you can probably pay off the debt of the province and finance some of the requirements of the province. We have the oil here or why bring in this legislation."

### LIFTS RESERVE

Dr. R. W. Alward, Conservative, Fort George, thought the reserve of forty acres for every forty staked gave ample protection to the Crown and was sufficient guard against a monopoly. He welcomed the legislation, because it threw open to prospectors and locators great areas in the Peace River belt which had been under reserve. It was an important step towards development of valuable natural resources, tending to help the return to normalcy in the province.

"The rights of the province may be well protected. I am wondering if the rights of the people are so well protected," Dr. Wrinch inquired. It appeared to be arbitrary legislation giving powers to frustrate development of individuals. He noted after the clause calling for development there was another clause which gave the government power to waive the development if it decided it was expedient. Opportunities appeared to exist for private owners to become dispossessed and the leases turned over to large companies, who could cap and hold wells.

Mr. Hinchliffe claimed the clause was to force development where oil was discovered and the well not developed. If the holder of the lease refused, the government could operate it itself, he claimed.

## Civil Service Payroll Still \$600,000 Higher

Striking Figures on Increase Given By Opposition Leader

Permanent Service, Costing \$3,893,291 in 1928-29, Now Costing \$4,501,019

Despite all talk of reductions in expenditures and cut in the civil service the payroll for the permanent service is still \$600,000 more than when the Conservative government first took office, T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, revealed in the Legislature yesterday.

Civil service salaries, according to the public accounts of 1928-29, totaled \$3,893,291, said Mr. Pattullo.

The public accounts tabled at the opening of the present session showed that salaries last year totaled \$4,501,019.

"Practically \$1,000,000 more has been added to the civil service since this government took office," he declared. "And this year, notwithstanding the pious protestations and ejaculations of my honorable friend about economizing and cutting to the bone, we find in the estimates now before us for the coming year that the salaries alone amount to \$4,501,019."

"That, even allowing for the reduction, is an increase of between \$600,000 and \$700,000 over four years ago."

Hon. J. W. Jones tried to shut off the discussion on a point of order.

"This government is always trying to hide things," exclaimed Mr. Pattullo.

"Why not come out in the open?"

"I take objection: we are hiding nothing," interjected Premier Toimle.

"Let's save time by discussing this under the proper heading."

"I bring this up now because the Minister of Public Works says it is necessary to cut down; but that's all right, we can have it again on the Provincial Secretary's estimates," concluded Mr. Pattullo.

## The

All Fool's Day the House—for liquor is sold and gory details of bottles and there is blood—which even the not

By H.

### ALL FOOLS' DAY

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### MR. POOLEY WA

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# For Across The Bay

All Fool's Day is not merry in the House—for the old story of liquor is told again—with new and gory details—like the hanging of bottles by the neck—and there is bickering and strife—which even the Captain cannot quell.

By H. B. W.

**A**LL FOOL'S DAY turned out something worse in the Legislature Friday. It wouldn't be quite fair to call it All Knaves' Day, but at least it was a running fight, a seven-hour snarl, a nagging, yapping, thoroughly unpleasant sort of day, and it accomplished just about nothing, except the passage of some items of supply which the harassed Mr. Jones kept forcing grimly ahead until boat time. No wonder Mr. Jones was grim, for our new fiscal year started on Friday, supply will be needed right away and at this rate it won't be granted for a week at least. At this rate, indeed, we may not prorogue next week, which is a consummation too grim even for Mr. Jones to contemplate.

**T**HE DAY STARTED with a brief, passionless argument about the future of British Columbia's oil resources, which produced good speeches from Mr. Hanna and Dr. Wrinch, who foresaw the creation of a vast oil monopoly in the future, and Dr. Alward, who feared nothing of the sort. The government's new oil policy was passed on division, Mr. Manson remarking that we had a Standard Oil government.

**F**ROM OIL WE transferred our attention to liquor, and found it, in the purely parliamentary sense, more familiar and, perhaps, more interesting stuff. At least, it instantly stimulated the whole atmosphere of the House. Before we realized what was happening, we were back half a decade into the feverish liquor debates which used to make the chamber swim with much oratorical beer and more froth.

**M**R. POOLEY was frankly aggravated when the opposition wanted information about the government's intentions towards the liquor board. He would only say that they were honorable. The opposition must be patient. It must wait and see whether the government would reduce the size of the liquor board, which was intriguing since the government, in a written statement, announced at the opening of the House that the board assuredly would be reduced, and so on. But then, it is ever the jolly custom of governments to keep oppositions guessing.

**T**HE PRESENT liquor board found a stout defender in Mr. Pooley who, having described its success and its economy, turned with equal enthusiasm to contemplate the previous liquor administration. You could almost hear the clink of glass as he told of the enormous breakages under the old regime, and the word "breakages" took on a strange and sinister light as he repeated it. You could almost hear the gurgle and drip of liquor as he told how an experienced breaker could hold a bottle over a pail, crack it with a hammer and salvage the contents while retaining the sealed neck. The neck, said Mr. Pooley, revealing some of the inside secrets of the liquor business, was all that the breaker had to retain to prove that the breakage had been accidental and official, and as for Mr. Pooley, though his experience was very limited, he had never known much liquor to reside in the neck, either human or glass. It was all very interesting and it made an impressionable man quite thirsty.

**M**R. POOLEY also attacked the old liquor board's insurance rates and other operations, but regretted very elaborately that he had to trot out such skeletons; whereat Mr. Pattullo asked that he trot them all out, but Mr. Pooley desisted, lest he be thought to be rubbing it in. He got plenty in return from Mr. Manson. Mr. Manson was not in a good humor. This is not a prejudiced comment but his own deliberate statement to the House. Yes, Mr. Manson, according to his own statement, was in a bad humor, and in such a humor he is particularly devastating. He was soon exchanging with Mr. Speaker what appeared to be suppressed desires for violence. Mr. Speaker said Mr. Manson must not ask Mr. Pooley what the intentions of the government were about anything and, as Mr. Speaker proceeded to elaborate this ruling with meticulous precision, Mr. Manson walked completely around his chair in an unsuccessful effort to hide his impatience. Having made half the circle again, he, with a sarcasm which cut like a buck-saw, said that it was too bad but, he supposed unavoidable, that the rules of the House, as interpreted by Mr. Speaker, made it impossible to discuss matters of urgent public importance. But as the rules were the rules, Mr. Speaker was Mr. Speaker, and everything was as it was and rapidly getting worse, it just couldn't be helped.

**H**E WENT ON to make a strong defence of Hugh Davidson's liquor administration against which there had been no complaints, and an equally strong attack on the present liquor board. He said the board was made up of "estimable chaps" but mere friends of the government, unemployed who had to be given relief in the form of big jobs, and altogether it was a scandal. You can say such things about people outside the House, but when Mr. Manson turned on Mr. Dick and said he hadn't the courage to vote on the liquor board as he really felt, Mr. Speaker rushed to the rescue as rapidly as his authority and his broken throat would permit. No, hon. member, said he, could say another hon. member had no courage. Mr. Manson said he meant only that Mr. Dick hadn't enough courage for the particular purpose in question, but privately Mr. Dick was an "awfully decent chap" and "a most lovable character." This seemed to satisfy everybody.

**B**UT NO SOONER had Mr. Dick been satisfied with Mr. Manson's blessing, than Mr. Pooley became highly dissatisfied. This new conflict arose over some obscure cause which Mr. Manson and Mr. Pooley may have understood but which it is certain no one else did. Mr. Manson's charge was that Mr. Pooley, at some time in the past, had made a wrongful reflection on him on the official records of the House and had not possessed the manhood to apologize when shown the truth. Mr. Speaker again objected that this was too personal. Mr. Manson again explained that he only meant Mr. Pooley hadn't enough manhood for the purpose in view. Mr. Speaker insisted that he withdraw. Mr. Manson would withdraw but repeat the facts and leave the hon. members to draw their own conclusions; which was difficult for the hon. members since they had no idea what it was all about.

**B**UT MR. MANSON was generous to Mr. Pooley in advising him about a new liquor board. He didn't even object to Mr. Pooley appointing a partisan, a political friend, provided he was a good man. That, said Mr. Manson with frank realism, was party government and anyone who talked otherwise was just talking nonsense—a statement profoundly true and real but so unusual in its frankness that the House gasped a little.

**A**FTER MR. UPHILL had spoken dispassionately against beer plebiscites in districts already wet—dispassionately in the extreme since he only used beer for medicinal purposes, Mr. Speaker — we went on with another thorny subject—game control. Mr. Pooley came to the defence of his game administration, not as a mere statesman, not as a member of the Executive Council or a Conservative politician, but as a father would come to the defence of his child, or a lover

**H**E HAD FIGURES galore to show that the increase in game costs lately had been too small for notice and nothing like the huge amount which unscrupulous Liberals had represented. But Mr. Manson promptly came back with a printed copy of the Jones Budget to prove somewhat too conclusively that Mr. Pooley's figures were all wrong. He read them deliberately and cold-bloodedly through a magnifying glass and Mr. Pooley, looking puzzled, conferred with Mr. Jones, who looked puzzled, too. Some explanation of this phenomenon seemed in order, but it was not forthcoming. Someone, somewhere, had evidently blundered. Late at night, however, Mr. Pooley produced detailed figures to prove his case.

**A**FTER M. LOUGHEED had made a defence of his public works administration which showed him much improved as a debater, we went to dinner. We returned feeling worse than ever. We started with a warm and icy passage between Mr. Pattullo and Mr. Twigg, the former warm, the latter icy, each accusing the other of discourtesy and both being fairly correct in their accusations. Then we had a passage between Mr. Pattullo and the Premier, this time warm on both sides, for Mr. Pattullo said the government was blocking all inquiry and the Premier said it would be glad to sit permanently merely to gratify all Mr. Pattullo's questions.

**I**NTO THE MIDDLE of all this squabbling floated dear old Capt. Fitzsimmons with a speech on Larger Issues and Mightier Aspects. He floated in on trailing clouds of political glory to remind us, at a time like this, mark you, when we were rowing over the work of road engineers and the maintenance of grounds—to remind us of the achievements of the pioneers, the greatness of our heritage, and of the Fathers of Confederation who, though dead, still lived on and on. It was a noble effort and thunderously applauded. Having thus heard the Captain urge it to forget its bickering and save the country, and applauded it thunderously, the House went on bickering and was still bickering far into the night.

## BUS FRANCHISE DATA REQUESTED

Matter Raised During Discussion of Public Works Estimates

Hot Words Fly in Committee at Session Yesterday Evening

Exclusive bus franchises on Vancouver Island highways again came under discussion in the Legislature yesterday with traffic control votes of the Department of Public Works under consideration. T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, and H. D. Twigg locked horns during the discussion.

Pointing out that \$9,000 had been received last year where \$20,000 was estimated Mr. Pattullo noted \$16,000 was now estimated.

Mr. Pattullo wished to know if all the one per cent gross revenue tax on transportation companies, which was introduced with the exclusive franchise bill, had been collected.

"Practically all," said Hon. R. W. Bruhn.

Was it collected on Vancouver Island? —Yes.

Will the minister file a statement on that?—Yes.

Mr. Bruhn added he could not get it ready for a day or two, but would endeavor to have it ready before the House prorogued.

Mr. Twigg rose to protest Mr. Pattullo was out of order, but Mr. Pattullo refused to give way, declaring less arrogance and insolence would be more fitting from the deputy speaker.

"Sit down and take your seat," said Mr. Twigg as the chairman ruled Mr. Pattullo should give way to the point of order.

Mr. Pattullo was on his feet immediately. "We have stood all the insolence we propose to stand from the deputy speaker," he said.

Mr. Twigg called for a withdrawal of the expression, but Mr. Pattullo, ignoring him, proceeded to discuss the vote.

Major George Walkem questioned if consideration was being given to the formation of a highway commission, quoting the endorsement of eighteen organizations.

Mr. Bruhn replied extensive data was

being secured from every province and the United States on the subject. When that was compiled the government could decide what was in the best interest of the province.

"I am not as yet satisfied it is the best thing," the minister commented. "It must be borne in mind the Minister of Public Works and the government are elected by the people and responsible to the people. A highway com-

mission would be responsible to no one."

The vote for district engineers was keenly discussed with members from many districts joining in.

They could not cut expenses unless somebody was dismissed, Mr. Bruhn said. Some engineers were being placed on half time. Others, when they could not be used as engineers, were being employed as road foremen.

Capt. J. Fitzsimmons, Kalso-Slocan, injected a note of eloquence into the discussion with an appeal for consideration for the minister in the difficult task he and other members of the government faced. He appealed for harmony for the good of the province and paid a tribute to the opposition leader as the leader of one of the great parties who had administered the affairs of the province.

There will be no assistant district engineer in Alberni from now on. Mr. Bruhn said, in answer to L. A. Hanna. He will be stationed in Nanaimo, working under the direction of the engineer in Victoria.

With the government buildings maintenance vote under consideration, Mr. Pattullo noted \$5,000 for temporary assistance was eliminated this year and detected another effort to present

a balanced budget and raise the money some other way.

Regretting the necessity of discharging steam boiler inspectors, Major Walkem offered a suggestion which he said would save money. If the Minister of Public Works sent these inspectors out to inspect boiler plants which were eating up coal more than they should because of defects, he would save \$50,000 a year in fuel.



# Hanna Pleads For More Consideration For B.C. Fishermen

Presents Case of Co-operative Associations and Smaller Canneries

Alberni Member and Commissioner Clash on Fishermen's Walkout

An urgent appeal on behalf of co-operative fishermen's associations and a plea for smaller canneries to be given more favorable consideration was lodged by L. A. Hanna, Liberal, Alberni, when estimates of the Commissioner of Fisheries were under consideration yesterday.

Mr. Hanna came in sharp conflict with Hon. S. L. Howe, Commissioner of Fisheries, on the subject of the walk-out of fishermen in Alberni last summer, the Alberni member charging Mr. Howe was not familiar with the facts; had no personal information of the matter because he was not in the district, and was wrong when he said A. W. Neill, M.P. for Comox-Alberni, had encouraged the fishermen to go on strike and seek relief pay.

**BIG CANNERIES GOING**  
Geo. Walkem touched on co-operative fishermen's associations and said investigations had shown that co-operative fishing except in small units had not proved successful. He noted the \$1,500 license fee for a small cannery and thought it was too large. The day of large canneries he thought was gone. There would not be the great runs there used to be. On the other side of the line small plants were in operation and had proved, he understood, successful. He urged the minister to give consideration during the recess.

L. A. Hanna, Alberni, said co-operative associations in Alberni had been forced to purchase canneries because no new cannery licenses would be granted, and because of this he thought they had had to pay more than they should for them. He thought, however, they stood a good chance of success.

Mr. Hanna thought the commissioner of fisheries should not relinquish his duties as the Dominion inspection of canned salmon indicated he had done. He thought this should be watched carefully so it was worked in fairness to all with no discrimination against the smaller plants.

He was inclined to agree with Major Walkem the day of the big plants was gone. They had, however, made big profits in the past, and the industry

now owed nothing to them and nothing should be charged to the industry if they opened again.

## PLEADS FOR SMALL PLANTS

He urged equal consideration be given to the small as to the large plants. The small plants were entitled to every consideration, he claimed. He pointed to hardships fishermen endured in pleading for every consideration for fishermen and the fishing industry in general.

Mr. Hanna also drew attention as he did earlier in the day, that B.C. fishermen were handicapped by the fact they paid four times the price for gasoline competing U.S. fishermen paid.

Mr. Howe pointed out support of Ottawa to remedy this situation had been sought.

Small cannery plants had given him a lot of concern, Mr. Howe said. He had hoped it would be possible to base the license on the outfit of the plant, but it had been found impossible to do this. The government, he said, had the affairs of fishermen at heart and intended to do all it could for them.

## STRIKE BREAKING

Mr. Howe claimed credit for the government for breaking the fishermen's strike in Alberni by reducing licenses on seine boats, and in this connection criticized the stand taken by Mr. Neill, who he charged had advised the fishermen to remain on strike and go on relief, linking Mr. Hanna in the criticism.

Mr. Hanna claimed Mr. Howe's comments showed he was not familiar with the circumstances when he discussed the so-called strike. As far as the fishermen were concerned there was no strike. They were offered a price of five cents a fish. They decided they could not fish at that price. The fact that later the price went up to seven cents indicated they were justified.

Mr. Hanna claimed but for Mr. Neill's intervention the trouble might never have been settled.

Fishermen had not been notified of the license reduction at the time of the trouble and the operators, knowing of the reduction, had been in the position to use the knowledge to their advantage in dealing with the fishermen.

There was no strike. It was just a walk-out, said Mr. Hanna. And it should be known in justice to the fishermen they could not get what they thought was a fair price, and they declined to fish as they had a perfect right to do. Everything was orderly. The minister seemed to have been misinformed.

Mr. Neill had never advised the fishermen to go on strike and go on relief, as Mr. Howe alleged, said Mr. Hanna. It was obvious from the commissioner's comments he knew very little of the matter.

## HAS FISHERMEN'S GOODWILL

Mr. Neill had the goodwill of both sides of the industry and would retain it long after Mr. Howe had lost it.

The Commissioner of Fisheries had only been once to the Alberni district since the present government was elected, and then he went to Parksville, where they did not fish but farmed, said Mr. Hanna.

Mr. Howe claimed he had more experience of fishing than the Alberni member and had visited more fishing plants than any previous commissioner.

T. D. Pattullo and A. M. Manson both pointed out Mr. Hanna was present at the meeting where the commissioner alleged Mr. Neill had advised fishermen to go on relief and spoke with authority when he denied it. Mr. Howe was not at the meeting and must accept the member's word. Mr. Howe claimed he had a verbatim report of the meeting and when Mr. Manson pointed out it was probably not a sworn-to report, Mr. Howe started some excitement by describing it as another instance of a drowning rat, but withdrew the remark when a vigorous protest was made at the nature of it.

# Lougheed Charged With Reign of Extravagance

Visionary Plans Caused the Spending of \$13,000,000 in Year, Says Manson

Machinery Purchased Was \$1,690,000 Not \$2,000,000, Says Minister

French criticism of the Public Works Department by A. M. Manson, K.C., and a vigorous defence of its administration during his regime by Hon. N. S. Lougheed, now Minister of Lands, characterized the opening phase of consideration of works department estimates in committee of supply by the Legislature yesterday.

## LACK OF CO-ORDINATION

Mr. Manson made these criticisms: 1. There was lack of co-ordination between finance and works departments allowing almost \$1,000,000 to be spent on camp establishment, when money was not available to work the men in them after the camps were completed.

2. Permanent camps were built in northern districts as late as October when officials should have known not more than a week or two of work could be done before winter set in.

3. A camp for 100 men was built in one district with not more than twenty unemployed and only by recruiting efforts were as many as forty occupants rounded up.

4. As a result of the money being thus spent thousands were now on the dole who should have been working.

## POLITICAL FOREMEN

5. Political foremen and party officials were allowed to interfere with the decisions of engineers, at a most of thousands of dollars in one constituency of which he had personal knowledge.

6. If a reasonable amount of normal road work had been done in the summer there would have been little demand for relief work in country districts during the fall.

7. Hon. N. S. Lougheed's administration had been visionary and extravagant, spending \$13,000,000 on public works in one year.

8. Costly machinery costing \$2,000,000 had been purchased in two years, more than the preceding government had bought in ten, and now there was no money to use it.

While having every sympathy for

Hon. R. W. Bruhn in his present task, Mr. Manson said he had failed in handling the last year's unemployment problem. Nevertheless, since he was the minister, everybody should co-operate in public interest.

His own suggestion was that the entire job be placed in the hands of the departmental engineers with such other engineers chosen from the profession as the magnitude of the task required. The engineers were not politically-minded and if they were given charge the costly political interference would cease.

## IMPRACTICAL SITES

Tom Uphill supported Mr. Manson's charge that camps had been established at impractical sites, mentioning two at an elevation of 4,000 feet in the Crow's Nest where heavy snow made work impossible.

Capt. Fitzsimmons believed the work had been handled efficiently without politics, but congratulated Mr. Manson on his offer to co-operate.

Mr. Lougheed said the amount of machinery purchased was \$1,690,000 not \$2,000,000 and that with this new modern equipment cost of road work had been reduced enormously. The machinery had been requisitioned by the engineers and was all doing good work.

Of the \$13,000,000 spent in one year he said \$4,000,000 was for Escondido buildings, \$2,000,000 for schools, and only \$4,900,000 was spent on roads. But it was necessary to improve the roads and value was received for every dollar spent. Highway revenue of \$4,500,000 a year was the only source of provincial revenue increasing and when a return was received on the investment the administration could hardly be called a "dream."

# Parliament Gardens Just Worn Out And Moth-eaten

Major George Walkem, Vancouver, Tells Legislature Charm of Flowers Is a Delusion and Thinks People Should Do Something About It; Would Like Opposition Leader to Pick Roses in "When You See This Remember Me" Spirit; Says He Has Burnt Roses Better Than Those at Buildings.

Victoria people have been deluding themselves for years about the beautiful Parliament Building grounds. When sightseeing bus operators draw the attention of tourists to the wonderful flowers and rose bushes they are all wrong. The rose bushes are moth-eaten and the plants should long ago have been tossed into the rubbish pile. The gardens are a disgrace to the magnificent capitol and something should be done about it immediately, Major George Walkem, Conservative, Vancouver, told the Legislature yesterday evening.

It was something he had long wanted to draw attention to, he told the House. While most people thought the garden was nice and next to a trained horticulturist and floriculturist they "were just the bunk." The language is that of the critical major. The rhododendrons and azaleas are not happy in their surroundings. They are ten, fifteen to twenty years old and should be retired and replaced. He did not mention superannuation for them.

"That is not the sight for tourists stepping off the boat to the capital of the province. The gardens should be an example of what British Columbia can do in the way of floriculture and horticulture," he said.

## POOR OLD ROSES

"And as for the rose bushes, I burned fifteen rose bushes much better last week. They are over-pruned and old. They won't flower worth while again."

"I suggest the Minister of Public Works invite the Chamber of Commerce of Victoria and men interested and enthusiastic in gardening to form an advisory committee to rehabilitate the grounds. There are lots of lovely shrubs that have been developed in the last fifteen years. Not one of them is to be found in the grounds. I would like to see this done."

"I would like to know that beautiful roses are blooming in the summer in the Parliament Building grounds. I would like, while I am in Vancouver, to think of the beautiful garden at the capitol, to think of the Opposition Leader who, I understand, lives here all summer and who is so neat and dapper in his personal appearance plucking a rose from the bushes, saying to himself, 'Now Walkem is responsible for that—a kind of when you see this remember me touch.'"

# Blame Ottawa Re

Federal Government Discussed in Parliament

CHEQUES REAR FUNDS ARE

Premier Asks Speed Up; Be Held Off

Ottawa's delay in sharing of unemployment money to British Columbia has been blamed by the premier before the unemployment committee of the Legislature for the delay in payments due to the province, which has been an embarrassing matter.

## OUT OF B.C. FUND

How the British government had been for of its own funds a on Ottawa's tardy explained to the committee by the premier. Payments withheld pending disputes on purchases of furniture and equipment. At the opening meeting this morning H. D. Twigg, voiced Premier Tomin's chairman said, that not prorogue until finished.

## LUMBER PURCHASE

Hon. R. W. Bruhn, Minister of Public Works, gave evidence before the committee on the purchase of lumber for the province at a low price and discussed among their referred the delegation of the Dominion Government to the minister and he undable quantity of lumber purchased in this was \$1750 a thousand, delivery costs. More paid in the interior orders were to buy. Mr. Bruhn said all had been established ways on express at the Dominion Government, although he had at the number down, he by Ottawa, by the papers and by the p to get the single me into camp. The D October 2 had said, no matter what the minister.

## TO KEEP OUT TRA

The minister gave what should be done urged that the Dominion to keep transients of province had had to single men, whereas Katchewan had each men unemployed.

He also urged the teen and nineteen s separate camps and schooling, instead of pay that might not

Hon. W. A. McKenna, Minister of the unemployment cabinet, admitted th been made to local goods delivered dire sales, and, possibly 10 per cent. The could give more info he said. Mr. McKenna was ordinary procedu done under similar

Informed that M. E. minion representative Jumbia under the Re any reports he made be shown to the un mtee of the B.C. Kenzie said he had r ports. Hire of mach quent purchase from was recalled. Mr. H relative of the minia the witness said.



# Blame Put Upon Ottawa For Tardy Relief Payments

**Federal Government Delay  
Discussed by Unemploy-  
ment Committee To-day**

**CHEQUES READY BUT NO  
FUNDS ARRIVED HERE**

**Premier Asks Investigation  
Speed Up; Prorogation to  
Be Held Off**

Ottawa's delay in sending its share of unemployment relief money to British Columbia was blamed by witnesses this morning before the unemployment relief investigating committee of the B.C. Legislature for holding up payments due to municipalities and embarrassing merchants over long delayed payments of bills for goods supplied on relief orders.

## OUT OF B.C. FUNDS

How the British Columbia government had been forced to finance out of its own funds and advance money on Ottawa's tardy contributions was explained to the committee. Payment could be made immediately on some of the vouchers submitted, witnesses claimed. Payments on others had been withheld pending settlement of disputes on purchases of machinery furniture and equipment for camps.

At the opening of the committee meeting this morning the chairman, H. D. Twigg, voiced a plea for speed. Premier Tominé had intimated, the chairman said, that the House would not prorogue until the committee had finished.

## LUMBER PURCHASES

Hon. R. W. Bruhn, Minister of Public Works, gave evidence briefly that the lumber exporters had made a proposal to sell lumber for the camps at a low price and distribute the business among their members. He had referred the delegation, of whom Gordon Raphael was one, to the deputy minister and he understood a considerable quantity of lumber had been purchased in this way at from \$9 to \$17.50 a thousand, according to delivery costs. More might have been paid in the interior, he said, as the orders were to buy from local mills.

Mr. Bruhn said all permanent camps had been established on main highways on express understanding with the Dominion Government and that, although he had at first tried to keep the number down, he had been pressed by Ottawa, by the Vancouver newspapers and by the police of the cities to get the single men out of the cities into camp. The Daily Province on October 2 had said it must be done, no matter what the cost, said the minister.

## TO KEEP OUT TRANSIENTS

The minister gave his opinion as to what should be done in future. He urged that the Dominion take steps to keep transients out of B.C., as this province had had to take care of 42,000 single men, whereas Alberta and Saskatchewan had each only 5,000 single men unemployed.

He also urged that boys of seventeen and nineteen should be kept in separate camps and trained or given schooling, instead of mingling in company that might not be helpful.

Hon. W. A. McKenzie, chairman of the unemployment committee of the cabinet, admitted that 5 per cent had been made to local merchants on goods delivered direct from wholesalers, and, possibly, in some cases, 10 per cent. The purchasing agent could give more information on that, he said. Mr. McKenzie commented it was ordinary procedure, and was often done under similar circumstances.

Informed that M. H. McGeough, a Dominion representative in British Columbia under the Relief Act, had said any reports he made to Ottawa would be shown to the unemployment committee of the B.C. cabinet, Mr. McKenzie said he had not seen those reports. Hire of machinery and subsequent purchase from A. T. Hatfield was recalled. Mr. Hatfield was not a relative of the minister or of his wife, the witness said.

"Manufactured out of whole cloth," said Mr. Twigg, referring to previous statements Hatfield was the minister's nephew.

Regarding Senator Robertson's letter to Mr. McGeough that British Columbia's relief programme had been cut from \$5,000,000 to \$2,700,000, Mr. McKenzie said that while it might appear from the letter British Columbia was responsible, Mr. McGeough had been present at meetings of the unemployment committee when it had been made clear the cut was to be made.

J. A. Craig, comptroller-general, submitted figures to show that payments made to municipalities for direct relief and unemployment works to-day totaled \$3,931,000, the Dominion's share being \$1,956,755 and the province's share the same.

## MERCHANTS' BILLS

Mr. Craig, P. D. Walker, Deputy Provincial Secretary, and E. D. Johnson, Deputy Minister of Finance, all gave evidence regarding delay in Ottawa in making payments on account of direct relief.

Disputes over materials, purchases

for camps, including machinery, office equipment, camp equipment and furniture were given as the reason why the Dominion Government was holding up payments of amounts for which the provincial government had made claims. There were other amounts, said Mr. Craig, over which there was no dispute and they should be paid by the Dominion Government to the province.

Mr. Walker was questioned on the delay in paying vouchers submitted by Vancouver for direct relief. There was a delay from September 21 to November 21 in the presentation of some vouchers, he said, and they were then held from October to January in straightening out responsibility for married men recently arrived in the city, transients and for other classifications.

## HAD NO MONEY

Mr. Craig, questioned at this point, said as soon as he received approved vouchers for direct relief, cheques were issued immediately from his office. Then he was finished with the matter.

"It is becoming increasingly obvious," said T. D. Pattullo, Liberal leader, "they did not have any money and they had to hold the cheques."

George S. Pearson, Nanaimo, questioned Mr. Walker on orders given to merchants by government agents and others and delay in payments which had embarrassed many merchants. Mr. Walker said there was no delay in his office. There was a lot of work in connection with the vouchers, and it would be about a month before they were finally approved for payment.

The chairman recalled the Deputy Minister of Finance had previously explained they had to wait for money from Ottawa.

"It was distinctly unfair, Mr. Pearson said, that merchants should suffer by delay pending disputes between the provinces and Ottawa. It appeared a government agent could issue an order out could not "O.K." It. Some wholesalers had refused to take the orders. It seemed to be just a means of delaying payment. A government order should be honored at its face value within a reasonable time.

Mr. Pearson pressed the chairman for reference to be made in the report to this phase of the inquiry.

Adam Bell, deputy Minister of Labor, produced figures to show that up to March 26 of this year 12,805 men had been sent to relief camps and to road work through offices and sub-officers of employment bureaus.

Mr. Johnson said the provincial government had been forced to finance on its own funds to pay a portion of the Dominion's Government's delayed share of direct relief and relief work. He had sought permission to release \$200,000 of \$500,000 placed in trust for the federal government's relief payments, but had received replies which he interpreted to mean he could not do so until vouchers sent to Ottawa had been approved. The provincial government had paid out \$233,000 of the share the Dominion Government had not yet forwarded. The delay in forwarding cheques to merchants had been because of non-receipt of money from Ottawa, Mr. Johnson said. Most of the cheques had now been paid. There was not now a cheque in the treasury later than March 20.

## NOT CONSULTED

Letters from half a dozen witnesses asked for by A. M. Manson, K.C., were read to the committee by Mr. Twigg, chairman, the writers saying they did not think they had any evidence of interest to the committee.

"Why are they not called?" asked Mr. Pearson.

"Why waste the time of the committee if they have no evidence?" replied Mr. Twigg.

"The man who asked that they be summoned is the one to judge of that," countered Mr. Pearson. "You have not consulted us about your witnesses. And you have not called one single witness that we asked for, unless it was Mr. McGeough, who would have had to come in the ordinary course."

Two of the proposed witnesses were Mr. Bain of Mission and Gordon Raphael of the Lumber Exporters. Mr. Bain denied he had paid the secretary of the Conservative Association at Mission fifty cents a thousand commission on lumber he sold for relief camps.

"He won't deny that he paid the fifty cents though," said Dr. W. H. Sutherland, Revelstoke.

"He does deny it," said the chairman.

"He denies he paid it to the secretary, and the Conservative Association also carefully denies it was paid to the secretary," said Dr. Sutherland.

Mr. Twigg said Mr. Bain had been in Victoria and they had conversed, but it was not deemed necessary to call him because of his letter.

"Every charge you have made has blown up," said W. R. Rutledge, Burnaby.

"Nothing has blown up," replied Mr. Pearson. "Not one witness we have asked for has been put in the stand."

# PUBLIC WORKS VOTES PASSED

**Prince Rupert Bond Location  
Discussed in Legislature**

**Northern Prospectors Hit By  
Cut in Northern Vote, Says  
Atlin Member**

Doubts as to the advisability of the location being followed in the building of the transcontinental road leading out of Prince Rupert were voiced in the Legislature yesterday by T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, when the vote of \$1,956,000 for roads, bridges, ferries and wharves was under consideration.

Mr. Pattullo and Hon. N. S. Loughheed differed in their opinions as to what the people of Prince Rupert desired. Mr. Loughheed thought the people wanted the road as now located to give them access to beautiful camps and lakes.

Mr. Pattullo said his information was the present location was not their selection, but had been followed because construction was cheaper. Mr. Pattullo thought the people would prefer the road as originally planned, following along the line of the Skeena, tapping the canneries and touching a large population. The road as now located went through beautiful country, but did not tap anything. To build it via the canneries would mean that 2,000 or 3,000 people contributory to Prince Rupert would come to the city by cars and it would mean a great deal to the city.

Dr. W. H. Sutherland said his impression was the people of Prince Rupert wished the road via the canneries.

While the Public Works estimates were under construction H. F. Kergin, Atlin, regretted the cut in the vote for his district from \$56,500 in 1928 to \$34,000 last year and \$27,000 this year. Development would be arrested, he said, and prospectors relying upon a little maintenance work would be hard hit. It would deprive them of the means of earning the money for grubstakes and to maintain claims.

Hon. R. W. Bruhn commented the estimates had to be cut.

"Here we have the minister admitting necessary work has to be eliminated, yet \$35,000 was spent on the Alaska Road survey which was years ahead of time," commented Mr. Pattullo.

Dr. H. C. Winch, Skeena, regretted no greater progress had been made on the Terrace-Hazleton Road.

# Questions and Answers in the Legislature

J. H. Beatty asked the Minister of Public Works:

Were any amounts paid by the government as rentals for road machinery during the fiscal years 1926-27 and 1927-28?

Hon. R. W. Bruhn replied:

Yes. To obtain the total amounts paid for such rentals would involve a considerable amount of accounting work, and the question involves matter too voluminous to be obtained for the purposes of answering a question.

L. A. Hanna asked the Minister of Public Works:

1. How many motor trucks were in the possession of the department as at December 31, 1931?

2. Was any amount paid by the department for hire of motor trucks during 1931? If yes, what was amount?

Mr. Bruhn replied:

1. 402.

2. Yes. Impossible to supply this information without undertaking a province-wide survey of vouchers in thirty-two district offices, an operation which would involve a very great amount of additional accounting work, and the question involves matter too voluminous to be obtained for purposes of answering a question.

F. M. MacPherson asked the Minister of Public Works:

1. Have any general road foremen, assistant general road foremen, or road foremen been appointed in the Kaskaslokan riding since August 20, 1928? If so, what are the names of persons so appointed; how much (a) salary and (b) expenses has each received up to December 31, 1931?

2. Have any general road foremen, assistant general road foremen, or road foremen been removed from office from August 20, 1928, to December 31, 1929; and what monthly salary did each receive prior to such removal from office? If so, what were the names of such persons?

Mr. Bruhn replied:

1. Yes. General Road Foreman W. Johnston; for remuneration and expenses see public accounts, General Road Foreman J. J. Skillcorn; for remuneration and expenses see public accounts. Assistant general road foremen, nil. Road foremen not appointed, but engaged as required.

2. General Road Foreman A. L. Levy automatically resigned by refusing transfer; salary, \$200 per month. General Road Foreman A. D. Moore, seventy-one years of age, resigned and superannuated; salary \$150 per month. For road foremen see answer to No. 1.

Dr. H. C. Winch asked the Minister of Public Works:

1. Was a government ferry established at Copper City prior to April 22, 1931; and, if yes, when was such ferry established?

2. If so, by whom was such ferry operated prior to April 22, 1931, and what remuneration was paid to ferryman in each year during which ferry was operated prior to April 22, 1931?

Mr. Bruhn replied:

1. No. Ferries Act does not require that government-operated ferries be established.

2. Ferryman employed from time to time as required. J. Smith, 1912-13 to 1915-16; for remuneration see public accounts, P. R. Skinner, 1916-17; for remuneration see public accounts, W. R. Kendall, 1917-18; for remuneration see public accounts, 1918-19 to 1924-25, no ferryman; see public accounts, L. G. Skinner, 1925-26 to April 21, 1931; for remuneration up to March 31, 1928, see public accounts; subsequent years as follows: 1928-29, \$534; 1929-30, \$478; 1930-31, \$498.32; 1931-32, \$20.84.

Thomas Uphill asked the Minister of Lands:

Was an investigation into the matter of forest fires held by the department at Terrace during 1930; and if so, have the results of such investigation been made public; and, if not, what were the results of such investigation?

Hon. N. S. Loughheed replied:

The complaints of a certain person of Terrace relative to forest fires, which occurred a number of years ago, and other matters were investigated by departmental officers in 1930. As far as the investigators could find out, the complaints were unfounded, and the results of such investigation were not made public because they were not considered of public interest.



# Challenges Fly During Debate On Finances

Let Commission Report on  
Province's Affairs, Opposi-  
tion Leader Urges

JONES DENIES INCREASE  
IN B.C. CIVIL SERVICE

Charges of Misrepresentation  
Hurled From Both Sides of  
the House

Hon. J. W. Jones, Minister of Finance, and T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, locked horns on deficits, borrowings and civil service figures in a prolonged debate in the Legislature yesterday evening with estimates of the Finance Department under consideration. Many other members joined in the verbal battle in which charges of misrepresentation of figures were hurled from both sides of the House. Mr. Jones denied Mr. Pattullo's figures through which the Opposition Leader claimed the civil service to-day was costing \$600,000 to \$700,000 more than when the Tolmie government entered office and claimed by the end of the year the payroll would be lower.

The contradictions prompted Mr. Pattullo to repeat his challenge to the government to allow an independent commission to examine the finances of the province and make their findings public. The government had refused the commission because they dare not permit it, he claimed.

"Permit this commission. I will abide by their findings," said Mr. Pattullo, whose figures had been questioned.

The charge made by Mr. Pattullo, Dr. W. H. Sutherland and George S. Pearson was that the minister had repeatedly issued untrue statements about provincial finances. The charge was supported by comparing two sets of statements made by the minister with regard to the same sets of facts.

On one occasion Mr. Pattullo said that if he could not produce an official government statement on the records of the House contradicting figures Mr. Jones had just given out he would resign his seat and dared Hon. R. H. Pooley, who had briefly injected himself into the debate, to accept the challenge.

Mr. Jones undertook to give a statement of how much the government had spent in reply to a general observation by A. M. Manson some days ago that the total was between \$145,000,000 and \$150,000,000.

Mr. Jones said the total was \$110,000,000. He made this up by adding the current expenditures for the three fiscal years ending March 31, 1930, 1931 and 1932, a total of \$33,390,000 to new borrowings of \$25,000,000 under loan acts and \$2,000,000 borrowed otherwise for unemployment relief.

Mr. Pattullo first pointed out that Mr. Jones had not included one dollar spent during the first seven and half months the government was in office, from August 30, 1928, to March 31, 1929. Averaging the total for that year over the month by month figures he said it was fair to assume the Tolmie government had spent at least \$15,000,000 that year.

In the debt statement Mr. Pattullo charged that Mr. Jones had contradicted his own budget speeches.

## BORROWING

"In the minister's budget speech this year he said the new money borrowed during the twelve months up to November 30 was \$12,300,000," said Mr. Pattullo. "A year ago he said the sum borrowed in the preceding twelve months was \$15,600,000. There in two years alone is \$28,000,000 and the minister now tells us he has borrowed only \$25,000,000. The \$28,000,000 does not take into account the first year and a half this government was in office nor the past four or five months.

"There is another proof. The interest on public debt has increased by \$2,400,000 since this government took office. That is 5 per cent on \$45,000,000 by which this government has increased the debt.

"If you add together the minister's \$83,000,000 for the current expenditures of the three years he quoted, to \$15,000,000 for the first seven and a half months, and the \$45,000,000 of debt you have \$143,000,000 without taking into account the deficit of this year, which will run to between \$5,000,000 and \$10,000,000."

## PEARSON'S ANALYSIS

Mr. Pearson then presented the situation from a different angle. He had made an actual calculation showing that during 1928-29 the old government in its four and a half months had spent at the rate of \$1,800,000 a month, whereas the new government had spent at the rate of \$2,200,000. But giving the government an even break \$15,000,000 was a fair sum to allot them for that year.

He accepted Mr. Jones's figures for the next three years, but quoted the minister's own figures as given in answers to questions on the journals of the house to show that the borrowings had been \$38,000,000, not the \$25,000,000 quoted by Mr. Jones in the current debate.

## AT LEAST \$38,000,000

When the government came in it had admitted acquiring \$9,800,000 of unexercised borrowing powers. Its new loan acts totaled \$32,400,000, and the unexercised borrowing power extant on January 1 this year, was reduced to \$4,000,000. It was clear, therefore, that the total new borrowings, exclusive of unemployment money and the borrowings since January 1 this year, was at least \$38,000,000, on the figures provided year by year to the House by the minister himself.

"The Minister of Finance is, therefore, obviously out thirty or thirty-five millions in the statement he gave this House to-night," concluded Mr. Pearson.

Mr. Jones said the House had to listen to a lot of blather and bunk from the opposition leader. He said he could not accept the figures quoted by either Liberal members, and especially denied a statement by Mr. Pattullo that \$2,000,000 had been borrowed last year for deficits. It was borrowed for unemployment relief and not one dollar was used for deficits.

## DEFICITS

He charged the late Liberal government with having incurred \$10,000,000 of deficits in twelve years. Mr. Pattullo disputed this. He said it had had a current surplus every year but two, and had applied fifteen millions of current surplus to capital account, which the minister had neglected to take into account.

"But even accepting that basis of computation, incorrect as it is," said Mr. Pattullo, "this government has incurred a larger deficit in four years than we are charged with incurring in twelve years."

Mr. Jones accused Mr. Pattullo with impairing the credit of the province by his charges of insolvency. Mr. Pattullo said he had refrained from discussing finances during his last summer's tour until October, when it became necessary to point out the disastrous effect of the short-term borrowings then falling due under adverse exchange conditions.

## SHOULD KNOW FACTS

"But the financial men know these facts," said Mr. Pattullo. "You can't fool them, and the public have a right to know the facts. We would be reluctant in our duty if we did not bring them out."

Mr. Jones said it was just a case of a professional politician trying to get into office.

The debate then turned on the increase in the civil service when Mr. Jones set out to refute figures given by Mr. Pattullo Friday night, showing an increase of \$1,000,000 since the present government took office in payroll alone.

Mr. Jones said in August, 1928, there were 1,389 civil servants and the payroll for that year was \$2,693,000. In August, 1931, the civil service was on an annual payroll basis of \$3,037,000, the increase in number of personnel being 138 to a total of 1,527.

## CLAIMS PAYROLL LOWER

The increase in payroll was only \$300,000, he said, not the million dollars claimed by Mr. Pattullo, and since August the salary reductions and dismissals had brought the total back to lower than it was when the government took office.

Mr. Pattullo stated that his figures had been taken from the government's own public accounts by a chartered accountant.

"One of the most deplorable features of public life in this province is the difficulty of getting at the truth," said Mr. Pearson. "The figures the minister has just given do not agree with the figures given by the government in answers to questions as published in the records two years ago. At that time the official statement was that the number of employees on

August 20, 1928, was 1,408 permanent and 165 temporary officials, or a total of 1,573."

Mr. Pooley demanded the date that answer was given. Mr. Pattullo and Mr. Pearson could not give the reference off-hand, but Mr. Pattullo said:

"I remember that answer and I will resign my seat if I can not find it. Will my honorable friend agree to do the same when we show him the figures?"

There was no answer.

Mr. Pattullo pointed out that Mr. Jones's figures did not include provincial police, liquor board staff or the employees in eleemosynary institutions.

## SAYS FACTS REFUSED

With regard to the difficulty of getting information, Mr. Pattullo said he was willing to leave the issue to an independent commission and told Conservative members they could easily verify his statement from the official records.

"But I can't get at all the facts," he added. "I hardly dare come into these buildings because if a civil servant is seen speaking to me he is immediately under suspicion. They have told me so. I offered to pay for a chartered accountant to ascertain the facts for me and the government refused."

There was another clash over the public debt. Mr. Jones said the gross debt was \$142,000,000.

"Every official in the Finance Department knows that statement is not true," said Mr. Pattullo.

"It is in my budget speech and I stand by it before the world," said Mr. Jones.

Col. Nelson Spencer said that the increase in public debt could easily be ascertained. The net debt in August, 1928, as shown by the Halliwell-Lachlan audit was \$32,000,000, and on November 30, as quoted by the Minister of Finance in his budget speech, was \$144,000,000.

Mr. Jones explained his refusal to accept responsibility for any expenditures in 1928-29 was that the late Liberal government had prepared the budget and committed the expenditures.

Dr. W. H. Sutherland offered his personal opinion correct figures were not being obtained from the Minister of Finance. They had had an instance a few days ago when the Attorney-General had been wrong in figures of the game branch. The Premier had been wrong in quoting figures on the debt and undoubtedly he had secured his figures from the Finance Minister. It was a queer state of affairs when even the Premier could not get correct figures from the Minister of Finance.

With the comptroller-general's salary of \$7,500 under consideration, Mr. Pattullo said this was an appointment of a friend of the former Minister of Finance at an increase over that paid the former comptroller-general.

Mr. Pattullo repeated his claim of an increase in the civil service, which was again denied by Mr. Jones, who claimed it was likely this year would show a decrease in the civil service payroll over the last year of the Liberal administration.

Attorney-General Pooley claimed Mr. Pattullo's figures were misleading. Outside workers who had sought civil service classification had been included.

He charged A. M. Manson, K.C., had given information he knew to be misleading in regard to the game board.

Hon. B. L. Matland, K.C., minister without portfolio, charged the opposition with trying to throw a smoke screen to hide the popularity of the budget.

## CLAIMS BUDGET FRAUDULENT

Mr. Pattullo came back to describe it as one of the most fraudulent budgets ever presented to the House. It did not represent expenditures. The privilege of special warrants was to be abused to cover spendings the budget did not show.

Hon. Joshua Hinchcliffe reviewed the last budget of the Liberal administration to confront the Opposition Leader's claim that the budget this session was one of the most fraudulent ever presented.

The vote of the Agent-General's salary, \$8,000, passed with a brief comment from Mr. Pattullo on the cost of caring for a party friend. He also noted the \$350 a month pension to F. A. Pauline after six years' service.

"It's too much," said one of the government members.

H. F. Kergul said it was not in public interest to eliminate the government agency at Anyox where the agent was also stipendiary magistrate and coroner. It was not advisable for an employee in a company town to act in either capacity as a part-time official.

Vote of the salary for the purchasing agent drew the comment from Mr. Pattullo that evidence before the public accounts committee had showed there was absolutely no check on authority over the purchasing agent who was responsible for the expenditures of hundreds of thousands of dollars.

## \$7,000,000 FOR DEFICITS

Finance Minister Will Seek  
Money When Market  
Improves

Tourist Business in Danger If  
Roads Neglected, Says  
Pattullo

The \$7,500,000 loan which British Columbia seeks powers to raise under the loan bill, given second reading in the Legislature yesterday, will not be applied for at once, Hon. J. W. Jones stated in the Legislature yesterday, but will be applied for as the case arises and when the money market offers the best opportunity.

"If the government had not spent \$20,000,000 too much during its term of office it would be in a better position now and have stood a good chance of success when it appealed to the country soon, as it inevitably must," T. D. Pattullo, Leader of the Opposition, commented, pointing out the bill called for \$7,000,000 for deficits.

Mr. Jones said \$400,000 would be used for bridges and highways, the greater part of which would be for the protection of bridges. The sum of \$100,000 was needed for the conservation fund for irrigation districts of the interior.

Roads would deteriorate unless money were spent on them, Mr. Pattullo claimed, and the tourist business which was valuable would suffer. He hoped complete data would be given on the \$100,000 conservation fund in the committee stage, recalling in his day \$2,250,000 was loaned to preserve the integrity of the dry belt to build up failing systems, the original builders of which had failed. He asked for information about rebates, recalling the government had rebated \$900,000 in interest. "Would rebates be general?" he asked.

Hon. N. S. Lougheed said the \$100,000 was needed to complete an improvement programme started two or three years ago. Demands for payments made on irrigation districts had been met, in many cases 100 per cent, and on an average of 79.02 per cent.

Hon. W. A. McKenzie and Mr. Pattullo found themselves in accord on two points. Mr. McKenzie agreed Mr. Pattullo was right when during the last administration he proposed \$2,250,000 be advanced to save dry belt irrigation systems, and Mr. Pattullo announced he was not quarrelling with the \$100,000 in the bill before them for conservation fund. They were, however, wide apart on the value of the Sanford Evans report, which Mr. Pattullo claimed disclosed nothing the government could not have secured from its own officials or records.



# McGeough Attacked For His "Past" By Committee Counsel

**Dominion's Relief Official Held C.P.R. and Provincial Government Jobs at Same Time, Witnesses Put on Stand By General Clark Assert**

**PEOPLE WANT FACTS, PEARSON DECLARES**

**Member Shows Stack of Letters From All Over B.C., "Howling About Things in Every Camp"; Inquiry to Conclude on Wednesday Morning**

An attack launched by Brigadier-General J. A. Clark, committee counsel, with the announced object of breaking down the credibility of the Dominion government's relief representative in B.C., M. H. McGeough, in the evidence that has been given revealing a break between the Dominion and provincial governments over relief administration in B.C., featured to-day's session of the Legislature's unemployment relief investigating committee at the Parliament Buildings.

General Clark put on the stand Andrew M. Innis, wharf freight agent of the C.P.R. at Vancouver.

Dr. W. H. Sutherland, Revelstoke, protested against the move, declaring that if the committee went into Mr. McGeough's past, it should go into the past of all the witnesses that have been called before it.

**GROSSEST INJUSTICE**

"This is the grossest injustice to this man, McGeough, who is not here, and the committee voted to refuse to allow him to come here again," said T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader. "Instead of an impartial counsel for this committee, General Clark appears as a prejudiced counsel for the government—the counsel for the defence."

George S. Pearson, Nanaimo, also joined in protests against General Clark's move as Mr. McGeough was only the Dominion's representative, but the committee on a motion voted five to three to hear Mr. Innis examined on facts of Mr. McGeough's past.

Questioned by General Clark, Mr. Innis said Mr. McGeough had been employed by the C.P.R. in Vancouver from July 15, 1927, to September 30, 1931, when he resigned to take the relief job with the Dominion government. He testified Mr. McGeough was paid an average of \$125 a month and worked from 8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

General Clark told the committee that during this time Mr. McGeough was working for the C.P.R. he was also on the payroll of the B.C. government and "it appeared to me desirable to make inquiries as to his capabilities."

Dr. Sutherland led the cross-examination of Mr. Innis.

"Are there any black marks against Mr. McGeough on the C.P.R.'s books?" asked Dr. Sutherland.

"No," replied Mr. Innis.

**HANDLED MUCH MONEY**

Dr. Sutherland went on to bring out that Mr. McGeough had worked as a telegrapher and dispatcher for the C.P.R. on the prairies and had handled as much as \$250,000 cash a year for the company.

"If a man does that I think he can handle a few vouchers here," he went on.

"I think this is the smallest thing that has come before this committee, this attempt to blacken Mr. McGeough. The outstanding feature is that the Dominion government is satisfied with him as an efficient representative in their interests."

"This committee would hang a man without giving him a chance," said Mr. Pattullo.

"Is this all you brought this man all the way from Vancouver for?" asked Mr. Pearson.

"Yes," replied H. D. Twigg, chairman.

"Well, I'll be . . ." Mr. Pearson started to go on.

"And I'm going to be paid for it, too," said Mr. Innis.

E. D. Johnson, Deputy Minister of Finance, was then called to the stand by General Clark. Mr. Johnson testified that Mr. McGeough had been employed by the provincial government from October, 1924, until September, 1931, on a continuous job and was paid at the rate of \$4 a day.

Mr. Johnson explained that Mr. McGeough was employed to watch the vacant Schacke Nut and Bolt plant under the Department of Industries so the government could carry insurance on it.

In reply to questions from General Clark, Mr. Johnson said if it had been known that Mr. McGeough was working for the C.P.R. at the same time, he would not have approved of his pay vouchers.

**EXONERATE THE GOVERNMENT**

"You are attempting to pillory this man and have refused to recall him," said Mr. Pattullo. "You have decided you are going to exonerate the government."

Chairman Twigg declared the McGeough affair as revealed before the committee to-day with him being employed by both the C.P.R. and the government at the same time was "the grossest piece of injustice."

Efforts to close up the relief committee's investigation with a final sitting Wednesday morning will be made so the committee's report can be completed in time for the Legislature to be prorogued before the end of the week, Chairman Twigg announced.

V. A. Rollins, government purchasing agent, was on the stand during the latter part of to-day's session, testifying on various purchases for relief camps.

Mr. Pearson asked for the vouchers covering the purchases for the Kamloops camp warehouse, which he took as a typical one for investigation.

**TOO MUCH TROUBLE**

Chairman Twigg, after consulting with public works accountants in the room, said it would involve going over 35,000 vouchers.

J. W. Berry, Ladner, declared that it seemed to be a case of "check and double check" with Mr. Pearson.

"If this man doesn't want the facts . . ." Mr. Pearson replied, holding up a thick pile of letters from all over the province. "The people of this country are howling about things in every camp, and the only way we can know whether things are right is to get down to facts and check them up for ourselves."

"At the last moment you produce a large file of letters here when we are on the eve of getting out our report," said Chairman Twigg.

Mr. Pearson replied that one witness who had come down to give evidence on these camp affairs had spent three weeks in Victoria and could not get himself called before the committee, and finally had to go home, after asking for his expenses to be paid.

Mr. Pattullo said that he himself, feeling sorry for the man, had paid his expenses here of \$24.

"Mr. Pearson says fairly that the public wants to know how the camps were conducted," Mr. Pattullo went on.

W. R. Rutledge, Burnaby, declared that it was all "a fishing expedition."

Mr. Pattullo replied it seemed strange to be "talking of fishing expeditions when the government paints the water."

**CONSIDERS IT A SHAME**

"If the government doesn't want to know, then I think it is a shame," said Mr. Pearson.

"It looks to me as if this is a last grandstand play," said Mr. Berry.

"I want to get the facts and come to my own conclusions, and that is what you should be doing, also," said Mr. Pearson, pointing to Mr. Berry and other government members.

"That's a dirty insinuation," said J. H. Beatty, Victoria.

"It's not a dirty insinuation," said Mr. Pearson.

At one point, when the bickering between Mr. Berry and Mr. Pearson reached a high point, Mr. Beatty cautioned Mr. Berry, saying: "You had better look out or you will get thrown out of the window again."

**KEEP COOL**

Chairman Twigg urged members to keep quiet and cool, and said that while he was trying to quieten them, Mr. Pearson was stirring them up.

Dr. Sutherland asked what the committee was costing the government a day.

"That is not a matter for the committee," replied Chairman Twigg.

Mr. Pattullo said the opposition members had borne as best they could under the rulings of the chairman, and he objected to the whole procedure.

"You have done your job as leader in the best way you know how," was the reply of Chairman Twigg.

## GRAND JURY DEATH KNELL

**Attorney-General Brings in Bill For Its Abolition in British Columbia**

**Regret Voiced at Passing of Old Tradition By Hon. R. L. Maitland**

The death knell of the grand jury system in British Columbia was sounded yesterday by Attorney-General Pooley in the Legislature with the second reading of a bill calling for their abolition in this province. Legislation making this permissible had first to be passed at Ottawa, Mr. Pooley pointed out.

Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., said he could not view the passing of this fine old institution without regret. T. D. Pattullo, Leader of the Opposition, said the Ottawa legislation was passed on the recommendation of Mr. Pooley and criticized him for not bringing the matter before the British Columbia Legislature before making such a recommendation.

**OUTLINED USEFULNESS**

Mr. Pooley said with changing times grand juries had outlived their usefulness. He reviewed their history and the check they kept on running of institutions in olden days, particularly in England. Now those institutions were open to inspection and public bodies and welfare institutions were familiar with them. Abolition of grand juries was being advocated in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Manitoba abolished them a short time ago and Nova Scotia proposed to follow suit. Antiquity was not a sufficient recommendation and Mr. Pooley saw no reason why they should be retained. He read comments from articles on the subject where exception was taken to men, without legal knowledge and in camera, sitting as a tribunal to override decisions of magistrates.

**WILL SHED A TEAR**

Mr. Maitland said he was not criticizing the Attorney-General for introducing the legislation, but if only for sentimental reasons he would shed a tear at the passing of an old tradition. It was not a case of what the grand jury had accomplished but what they had prevented through being there.

"I cannot help but feel," said Mr. Maitland, "we better be careful about getting away from the old traditions that lend majesty and dignity to the bench, bar and the administration of justice. I hope we will not get in the position of the United States, where there is no dignity to the administration of justice. It is not always dollars and cents we should have in mind."

Under the present system, Mr. Maitland continued, there was a horribly inefficient set of justices of the peace throughout British Columbia. Their intentions were honorable but they did not understand the law and did not want to. The grand jury offered protection in decisions they handed down.

Mr. Pattullo thought the Attorney-General would have been well advised to have consulted the House before making such an important recommendation to Ottawa. He was not so sure the right step was being taken. Grand juries were a great safeguard. It was better to have a grand jury err on the side of clemency than to have errors of justice.

Two thousand dollars for the Vancouver and \$2,000 for the Victoria Publicity Bureau was included in the \$25,000 grant for information and general publicity, the Minister of Finance said in the Legislature yesterday when the vote was being considered.

## PASS ON VOTES FOR EDUCATION

**More Welfare Offices Needed, Says Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe**

**University of British Columbia Vote Held Over**

Dr. H. C. Winch, Skeena, during discussion on estimates of the Department of Education in the Legislature drew attention again to the case of a female school teacher in the lonely school in his riding who had been attacked and stabbed.

Dr. Winch said he thought inspectors should be charged with the responsibility of overlooking living conditions of teachers in remote districts. He recalled he had opposed the appointment of a welfare officer for the purpose when it was made on the grounds that one woman could do very little throughout the province.

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe agreed with the latter part of the Skeena member's statement. A woman officer was needed, said Mr. Hinchliffe, because female teachers would confide in another female more readily than they would in a man. More welfare officers were needed and consideration would be given to other appointments.

L. A. Hanna, Alberni, noted the grant for education of soldiers' dependant children had been cut from \$15,000 to \$12,000.

A community school district trustee at salary and expenses for five months of \$2,200 was a new appointment for Doukhobor schools, said Mr. Hinchliffe. For next year the schools would be asked for this salary. Major W. A. Clark, formerly in the Lands Department, has been selected for the post Mr. Hinchliffe said.

The vote for the University of British Columbia was not passed upon. T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, asking it be held over in the absence of A. M. Manson, who was unable to attend because of an appearance in the Court of Appeal.

Mr. Hinchliffe intimated there was no chance of a change of heart on the reduced vote.

## HOPES TO END SESSION SOON

**But Unemployment Report Must First Be Presented, Says Premier**

**Government Members Responsible For Delay, Says Opposition Leader**

Announcement by Premier Tolmie at the opening of yesterday's sitting of the Legislature that he was preparing to facilitate the work of the session to procure final adjournment this week, led to a clash over the work of the unemployment committee. The premier said a report from this committee for debate in the House would be insisted upon.

T. D. Pattullo said he would assist in getting through the work. The opposition had waived the debate on the address at the opening of the session, but the government was not ready, and for weeks the House had sat an average of an hour and a half a day.

The unemployment committee had been slow in getting down to work and even yet none of the witnesses asked for by opposition members had been produced.

"The whole thing is a travesty," he said. "We ask for a witness and instead of issuing a subpoena the chairman interviews the witness and advises us it is no use calling him. The object of this committee is just to give the government a certificate of character."

H. D. Twigg, chairman of the committee, said Mr. Pattullo's statements were untrue and every charge investigated and been found worthless.

If the government wished to get through promptly, Mr. Pattullo advised the premier to bring down any remaining legislation at once, so opposition members might have time to consider it. He was willing to wind up the session at once, but the opposition would insist on carrying out their duty of submitting all legislation to such criticism as was warranted.



## Across The Bay

We start the last lap with high resolutions—and come to life as we enter the dying hours—for our tempers are frayed—and our hopes of finishing this week are sadly dampened.

By H. B. W.

THE HOUSE plunged Monday into what, with our usual exquisite logic, we call the dying hours of the session, when everything comes suddenly to life. And while both sides were determined to make the dissolution as rapid and as merciful as might be, both reserved the right to do things which may yet keep us here over another week-end. Our end is not yet and ere it comes you may see many curious sights.

THIS FINAL week of the session, or at least we hope it is the final week, started with a sharp little wrangle which showed clearly how the many previous weeks have frayed our nerves and tired out our patience. As the day opened the Premier rose to make a portentous ministerial explanation. He said the government hoped to get through this week. It would do everything possible to send the members home before another week-end, without, however, skimping or shirking any business; which remark was particularly impressive in view of the fact that the chief business of the session has yet to be introduced. But, said the Premier, while reasonable speed was desirable, the government was absolutely determined to complete the unemployment investigation and allow a full discussion of it. Therefore, said the Premier, the less unnecessary oratory the better.

THIS WAS MORE than Mr. Pattullo could bear. He rose with indignation to remark that the unnecessary oratory of the session had not come from his side. The real reason for delay in the session, as everyone knew, was that the government had come to the House totally unprepared, and had not brought down its business in time. So late was the government's business, indeed, that the House had sat only an hour a day for some weeks for lack of legislation to go on with. Anyway, if the government would mend its ways, and get down the real business of the session now, the opposition would move as fast as possible, but, added Mr. Pattullo, with an unmistakable rasp in his voice and a baleful eye which looked squarely at the Premier, the opposition would criticize as it saw fit until the bitter end.

MR. PATTULLO got into a separate row with Mr. Twigg, when he scorned the Premier's talk of a full unemployment inquiry. Mr. Twigg, as chairman of the unemployment committee, begged with great courtesy to deny Mr. Pattullo's allegation that the inquiry was not free and full, that all the desired witnesses had not been called. Mr. Twigg went so far as to use the absolutely unparliamentary word "untrue", to which Mr. Pattullo reported that the inquiry was a mere travesty, designed simply to give the government a certificate of character. The Premier, still smiling, said the government needed no such certificate, and Mr. Pooley said the House had been adjourned early in the first weeks of the session so that the committee could work.

THIS HAVING been settled to no one's satisfaction, and our hopes of finishing this week having been decidedly dampened, we went on with the job of finishing. There was nothing in the subsequent proceedings to inspire new confidence in the breast of Mr. Pattullo. When he regarded some of Mr. Pooley's new legislation, which doubles and quadruples fees for registering various conditional sales, Mr. Pattullo finally confessed that he was without hope in this ministry. He finally suggested that the government could improve its financial position and add some real talent to its fiscal administration by calling in that noted financier, Andrew H. Brown of the Fresh Air Taxicab Company, like whom, Mr. Pattullo said, he was absolutely "regusted." But, as Mr. Pooley felt that the government already received enough fresh air from the opposition, we decided not to bother Mr. Brown just now.

THE BILL to abolish grand juries brought to the surface an interesting conflict in the processes of eminent minds. Mr. Pooley sponsored this move, and made an able argument to support it. Mr. Maitland, as he must do or resign, loyally supported Mr. Pooley's bill, but if he liked it he disguised his feelings with remarkable success. He supposed the bill was inevitable, since Ottawa was abolishing grand juries, but he proceeded to make an excellent argument for keeping them. Indeed, he advanced a much better argument against Mr. Pooley than the opposition did, garnished it with some interesting legal reminiscences, and finally confessed that he would shed a tear to see another of the grand old institutions of British jurisprudence disappear. He even feared lawyers' gowns would go next, and after that what was left? Mr. Maitland having expressed his views so well, Mr. Pattullo largely reiterated them.

ALL THIS was very pleasant and non-political, but Mr. Jones brought us up with an unpleasant round turn when he asked for the passage of a loan bill for \$7,500,000, of which the appalling total of \$7,000,000 is for current deficits—seven millions added to our dead weight of debt for twenty or thirty years, probably twenty millions to pay back, interest included, with little to show for it but actual running expenses now forgotten; seven millions more debt to bring our total within speaking distance of a hundred and fifty million, and no member could fail to see the silent indictment of Mr. Jones's loan bill.

MR. PATTULLO blamed it all on the government, and more especially on the government's failure to take his advice and go slow in its early stages. Instead it had made a splurge and landed us into this mess, whereas if it had taken his advice, Mr. Pattullo confessed with a remarkable frankness that it probably could not have been beatable at the next election. Not having taken his advice, of course, it was already beaten.

IN THE EVENING we made progress crabwise and seemed to get further from prorogation with every passing hour. It took Mr. Jones over an hour to get one small item of supply passed, and it required, in addition, almost another complete budget speech. Evidently Mr. Jones had come prepared for trouble of this sort. To Mr. Pattullo's complaint about the government's extravagance, Mr. Jones replied with a tornado of statistics to prove that it was really all Mr. Pattullo's fault. He quoted figure after figure to show that Mr. Pattullo's government had really spent the money, or committed its successor to spending it, which was very enlightening, but did not, alas, alter the fact that it was spent but not yet paid for.

MR. JONES became once more the fighting Mr. Jones of opposition days as he lit into Mr. Pattullo as he used to do. He was tired of the "blather and bunk" of his friend Mr. Pattullo, and it appeared that Mr. Pattullo was almost as tired of Mr. Jones. Mr. Loutet expressed the outraged feelings of the downtrodden, inarticulate back benches when he said everybody was tired of all these ancient, worn-out arguments. Mr. Pearson, for his part, was tired of all this fruitless searching for the truth amid all this contradiction. Dr. Sutherland, breaking his customary silence with a sudden mighty outburst of indignation, said the government was misrepresenting the truth even about the public debt. Mr. Pooley, with an outburst still mightier, said the opposition was misrepresenting the truth about everything, instead of being British and playing the game in our time of need. And we were still trying to get at the facts, we were still trying to find out whether the civil service costs a million dollars more a year than under the old government, we were still toiling laboriously over supply, still listening to the inexhaustible logic of Mr. Hinchliffe, still wondering if we could possibly finish this week when we quit and went home wretchedly to bed.

## Birthday Greetings Are Extended To-day To—

HAROLD DESPARD TWIGG



H. D. TWIGG, M.P.

Mr. Twigg was born in Ireland in 1876. In 1899 he emigrated to Canada. Formerly a barrister and solicitor he is now engaged in the life insurance business. Mr. Twigg served overseas from 1916 to 1919 attaining the rank of captain in the C.E.F. In 1924 and again in 1928 he was elected to the B.C. Legislature, and in 1929 was appointed Deputy Speaker. Mr. Twigg has always interested himself in civic affairs, at one time holding the office of vice-president of the Automobile Club of B.C. and director of the Chamber of Commerce of Victoria.

## NO CHANGE THIS YEAR

Amendments to the Library Act, under which city councils would be given wider control over the expenditures of the library boards, probably will not be placed before the Legislature this session.

The change has been proposed in conferences between municipal representatives and House members, it was learned, but with the session of the House nearing its end, it is unlikely anything will be done until next year.

## CENTRAL AUTO SALES RECORD

### Bill Calls For All Transfers to Be Recorded in Victoria

Central registration of all transactions affecting motor cars in British Columbia is to be effected.

In moving second reading of amendments to the Bills of Sale and Conditional Sales Act in the Legislature yesterday, Attorney-General Pooley stated that it was difficult for people having to do with the titles of automobiles to ascertain from all the many registry offices in the province what liens might be registered against them.

So it has been decided that all registrations shall be made at the office of the Superintendent of British Columbia Police in Victoria. Under these conditions only one search will be required to know whether there is any prior lien against a car whose title is in question.

T. D. Pattullo said this would make for delay with all documents having to come from every part of the province to Victoria, but there was undoubtedly an abuse to be corrected.

He noted, however, that the minister had made no reference to the fact that the registration fee was being increased from 25 cents to \$1.00, so he presumed that in one more direction the finance minister had found a place to rake in some more money.

Mr. Pooley said the increased fee was to pay the salaries of extra officials required to look after the extra records. The bills were given second reading.

## RETICENT ON LIQUOR BOARD

Information about traveling expenses of liquor commissioners was denied in the Legislature yesterday, when Attorney-General Pooley informed T. D. Pattullo that what goes on in the Liquor Board administration is not within the official knowledge of the Attorney-General.

Mr. Pattullo had asked some questions of the Attorney-General about traveling expenses of the commissioners and whether the board had an office in the Pacific Building, Vancouver. They were returned marked: "No official knowledge."

"The Liquor Board is within the Attorney-General's department, and if he has no knowledge of these matters it is his duty to ascertain," said Mr. Pattullo.

Mr. Speaker said in the case of separate bodies corporate the minister had not necessarily direct knowledge, and Premier Tolmie confirmed this in the case of the P.G.E. At Ottawa, he said, they often refused to answer questions about the C.N.E. "If they do wrong at Ottawa, that is no reason why we should do wrong here," insisted Mr. Pattullo. "Let the daylight in on this Liquor Board once in a while, instead of trying to do everything secretly."

Premier Tolmie said there was no attempt to hide anything, and Mr. Pooley suggested the questions be re-submitted and he would consider them again.

## TEACHER PENSION ACT AMENDED

Amendments to the Teachers' Pensions Act were introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe. In view of the number of teachers returning to the profession these days, one clause provides that teachers who have been out of the service for ten years may not count their years of service prior to the interlude in estimating their rights to pensions. The pension commissioners are given discretionary powers with regard to those who have been out for more than five years.

Where part of a pension is payable to a second party, such as the wife of a teacher, facilities for continuing the wife's share after the pensioner's death are provided.

## GOVERNMENT ON M

Two Conservative Opposition of Tax Limit

TWO OTHERS WHEN VO

Amateur Game Tax Under F

Two Vancouver members, T. H. Dick, voted against amendment to the opposition with New Westminster amendment to limit bill limiting the share of the revenue to \$170,000 already voted against in committee.

G. A. Walkem, Va. Heggie, North Ok. Conservative member from the House, vote was taken.

Mr. Gray, moving report stage, said for the benefit of revenue was earned and the proceeds of the municipalities, too was opposed to municipal aid.

LIMITS SHARE

The bill which limits share to \$170,000 tax from five to the estimate of next year is \$235,000. Colonel Nelson S. and the Victoria C. voted with the government of their civil measure.

Opposition member objection to the tax when the amendment in committee of their objection on increase was to be government.

Hon. J. W. Jones was subjected to questions during amusement tax bill. Mr. Gray protested taxing amateur game done. "The more playing fields we have the better place will be," he said.

The minister decried interpretation might be attached "patriotic and chaste" to classes of enter there will be no thought the House able to guess who of a church was whether and Elk's patriotic.

No information of the government's a high school dance of a library in a dance where she

## CORNETT FILM

Conservative ports Bill on S

J. W. Cornett, in whose name the bill has been adjourned finally told the that he was going

and it went through it is understood M the bill up pending which was held S. While he had theatre feared the hardship, Mr. Cornett said that the in-Council could be inflict any injustice.

Hon. N. S. Lough some clarifying a Natural Gas and P has been described as monopolistic oil discoveries that the province.



## GOVERNMENT RANKS SPLIT ON MUNICIPAL ISSUE

Two Conservatives Vote With  
Opposition on Pari-mutuel  
Tax Limit For Cities

TWO OTHERS ABSENT  
WHEN VOTE IS TAKEN

Amateur Games and Dance  
Tax Under Fire in House

Two Vancouver Conservative members, T. H. Kirk and William Dick, voted against the government yesterday and stood up with the opposition when A. Wells Grav, New Westminster, moved an amendment to kill the government bill limiting the municipalities' share of the pari-mutuel tax revenue to \$170,000. Mr. Kirk had already voted against the clause in committee.

G. A. Walkem, Vancouver, and George Haggie, North Okanagan, two other Conservative members were absent from the House, unpaired when the vote was taken.

Mr. Gray, moving the amendment on report stage, said the tax was devised for the benefit of municipalities, the revenue was earned in municipalities, and the proceeds should remain with the municipalities. Mr. Kirk said he too was opposed to the curtailment of municipal aid.

### LIMITS SHARE

The bill which limits the municipalities' share to \$170,000, increases the tax from five to seven per cent and the estimate of revenue from the levy next year is \$235,000.

Colonel Nelson Spencer of Vancouver and the Victoria Conservative members voted with the government despite the protest of their civic bodies against the measure.

Opposition members recorded their objection to the increase in the tax when the amusement tax bill was in committee of the whole, founding their objection on the fact that the increase was to be retained by the government.

Hon. J. W. Jones, Finance Minister, was subjected to a running fire of questions during the passage of the amusement tax bill through committee. Mr. Gray protested vigorously against taxing amateur games, as is now to be done. "The more boys we get on the playing fields learning to play the game the better place British Columbia will be," he said.

The minister declined to give any rash interpretation of the meaning that might be attached to the words "patriotic and charitable," as applied to classes of entertainment for which there will be no amusement tax. He thought the House itself ought to be able to guess whether a dance in aid of a church was for "charity" and whether and Elk's Flag Day party was patriotic.

No information was given as to what the government's attitude would be to a high school dance, to a dance in aid of a library in a company town, or to a dance where shares of the proceeds

## ASK FEWER RACING DAYS

Social Service Council Opposes  
Business of Betting,  
Deputation Tells Cabinet

Strong protests against recognition by the provincial government of racetrack gambling was registered by a delegation of fifteen men and women which this morning presented to the Cabinet a resolution, adopted by the Social Service Council of British Columbia, and endorsed by eleven organizations. The delegation was headed by Rev. Dr. Hugh Dobson and Mrs. D. B. MacKay of Vancouver and was introduced by Rev. W. R. Brown, president of the Victoria Ministerial Association.

The delegation also asked that the period of racing at each of the five British Columbia tracks be reduced to six consecutive days, instead of seven, and that only one meet be held at each track in any one year. This would reduce the total days of racetrack betting in this province to thirty days.

Dr. Dobson stated that betting shared with the liquor traffic a large part of the responsibility for the present depression. These had removed from British Columbia millions of dollars in recent years, thereby exhausting reserves which would otherwise be available to tide over the current depression.

All members of the Cabinet were present except Hon. R. W. Bruhn, and the delegation was promised careful consideration of its representations.

## GOT GRANTS DUE PROVINCE

B.C. Overlooked No Technical  
Training Funds, Says  
Hinchliffe

Denial that the responsibility for failure to obtain technical education grants from Ottawa in recent years rested upon the provincial government, was made in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, Minister of Education.

He referred to an Ottawa dispatch in The Vancouver Sun of April 1, stating that a return in parliament showed no application for a grant in the last two fiscal years, while five other provinces had applied and obtained funds.

Mr. Hinchliffe quoted official records in support of his claim that the original ten-year agreement to make technical education grants had expired in 1929 and that within this period British Columbia had received the full proportion to which it was entitled on a population basis.

He quoted letters from Ottawa officials that British Columbia's portion was exhausted in 1929, but that the act had been extended to 1934 to enable the five provinces in question to use up the money that had been appropriated for them and which they had been unable to earn under the fifty-fifty agreement.

With regard to the Bennett Government's new act, he read a further communication that the Dominion had decided not to put this act into operation until the economic condition of the country warranted such expenditures.

"British Columbia received all she was entitled to," concluded the minister. "There was no negligence on our part."

## Across The Bay

We spend such a night as we have not known in years—but of course no one will understand it—nor our mighty jests—nor Mr. Pattullo's Swedish bath—nor Mr. Atkinson's oranges—nor the utter collapse of Mr. McKenzie.

By H. B. W.

THE HOUSE became much too human on Tuesday for its own good. It became so human, indeed, that, against all your better judgment, you could not have helped loving it. It glowed with such humanity and good feeling that we hardly knew it for the cranky, snarling House of Monday. In this humor it launched into such a weird and wonderful debate, such an incredible and absolutely impossible debate, such an outrageous, delicious and altogether unique mixture of fruit in the Okanagan, Mr. Pattullo's Swedish bath in Sweden, the salvation of the British Empire, and big oranges from Jamaica, that we enjoyed the maddest, merriest night in years. And finally we reached a finale, a crescendo which only a master showman could have conceived when Mr. McKenzie, our jolly Minister of Mines, after denouncing the opposition with a torrent of pure indignation, smashed his chair and fell to the floor in an excess of pure patriotism.

BUT DON'T, oh righteous elector, don't hold all this merriment too much against us. Rejoice rather that your representatives here are still men with human instincts left in them, sound-hearted men who, even at a time like this, can relax from the strain of saving the country to spend such an amazing, such a gorgeous night as this. Of course, it all sounds very flat in print. Of course, one cannot recreate for you the strange mad-hatter's atmosphere which prevailed all evening, the utter bewilderment of poor Mr. Hayward, the chairman, as the House got quite out of hand, the fierce joy of Mr. Pattullo, the mischievous delight of Mr. Jones, the glowing indulgence of Mr. Howe, the utter isolation and benumbed detachment of Mr. Atkinson, and the high morality of young Mr. Maitland. One cannot recreate it nor explain it. It seemed like a spontaneous outburst, a strange tropical growth which sprang up suddenly out of the barren soil of this too-long session, and quickly encompassed the whole House, as if for one evening everybody was sick of being a grown-up legislator and wanted to become for a little while a small boy. And small boys we were, while the galleries rocked and the ushers gasped and the back-benchers, wondering what had got into their leaders, slumped in their chairs and reflected that, at this rate, we wouldn't be home for another week. But who cared? Not the front benches. They were out to make a night of it.

YOU WILL WONDER what all this was about. I cannot tell you exactly, because no one has been able to tell me. No one really knows, and no one really cares. It started over the payment of \$1,000 to a Victoria gentleman named Hastings for his work in encouraging the importation of fruit from Jamaica—a prosaic matter you will say; yes, a matter which, under ordinary conditions, would pass with a few telling remarks, but which, in this humor, the House seized upon as children just out of school.

BEFORE WE realized what had happened, Mr. Pattullo had made of the thousand dollars a financial issue of magnitude, for it was of such thousands here and there that our yawning deficits were composed. But Mr. Maitland went him one better. The thousand dollars turned out to be not a matter of filthy lucre, not a mere dispute over dollars and cents. Somehow, I am not just sure how, but somehow Mr. Maitland showed that it involved the Statute of Westminster, and, indeed, the whole future of the British Empire. One gathered from Mr. Maitland's thundering periods that the future of the British peoples rested on a crate of oranges from Jamaica.

THEN, ON THIS same fruity basis, we threshed over the last Revelstoke by-election, and we had Mr. Maitland accusing the present member for Revelstoke, Dr. Sutherland, of not talking enough in the House, and Dr. Sutherland accusing Mr. Maitland of talking far too much, working himself up somehow by a mysterious internal process and pumping out oratory in a fashion which defied even Dr. Sutherland's medical knowledge.

IN VAIN Chairman Hayward said he wasn't interested in the Statute of Westminster or by-elections in Revelstoke. He was interested in oranges from Jamaica. In vain Mr. Pattullo called for order. The house rocked and roared, to rock and roar again over jokes too numerous and too obscure to be related here.

THEN, BRINGING up the rear, as he always does in these major engagements, came Mr. McKenzie. He had his scrapbook with him, and from its ample pages he drew forth memories that made us fairly burst our sides. Most beautiful of all, he drew forth memories of Mr. Pattullo's trip to Europe (cost \$4,000, Mr. Speaker), which had nothing to do with oranges from Jamaica, but was beautiful, nevertheless. Mr. Pattullo, after an ineffectual attempt to point out that it was completely out of order, decided with a laugh to let Mr. McKenzie go on and answer him some other day.

MR. MCKENZIE went on. He said Mr. Pattullo had gone to Europe to investigate a new system of making fertilizer from the air. But on his return his only worthwhile report

to his Cabinet had been this gem: "Paris is still the gayest city in the world." And as Mr. McKenzie pictured, in Gargantuan style, his friend Mr. Pattullo striding down the streets of Paris, the House laughed until tears rolled down the cheeks of Mr. Howe. Mr. Pearson said it was all disgusting—but nobody cared. Everybody was happy. Mr. Pattullo was happiest of all. He said his trip to Europe had been well worth the price, it had brought back invaluable information which he could outline at a more fitting time, and, among other things, said Mr. Pattullo, it had enabled him to take a real Swedish bath in Sweden. At which Mr. Maitland protested solemnly that the hon. gent. was out of order in discussing such delicate matters.

BY THIS TIME the oranges of Jamaica had been forgotten. We had shot off long before on Okanagan cantaloupes, American control of British Columbia business, empire trade, and finally the need of using British Columbia coal. It was in the middle of an impassioned address on British Columbia coal, an able and excellent address quite out of order and having nothing to do with the subject under discussion—it was in the midst of this noble effort that Mr. McKenzie sat down, snapped the swivel on his chair and landed with ministerial grace upon the blue carpet; and it was then that Mr. Pattullo ended our two hours of unalloyed delight (which you will never understand) by proclaiming, as Mr. McKenzie rolled upon the floor, that the government, in truth, had now collapsed and only waited to be carried out. And Mr. Atkinson, who had innocently provoked all this with his departmental estimates, looked straight ahead, neither to the right nor to the left, and spoke no word.



# House Discusses Thousand Dollars Paid To Hastings

Victoria Conservative Pro-  
paganda Debated in the  
Legislature

JAMAICA FRUIT TRADE  
BUSINESS QUESTIONED

Agriculture Minister Has  
Little to Say About Note  
From His Department

One thousand dollars paid to Harry Hastings under the Department of Agriculture estimates as "traveling expenses" prompted a two-hour discussion in the Legislature yesterday evening during the course of which Opposition members claimed that the \$1,000 was a payment to Mr. Hastings for letters written to supporting newspapers as Conservative political propaganda.

Government members claimed Mr. Hastings was entitled to the \$1,000 for building up an empire market through introducing Jamaica citrus fruit products to British Columbia.

Hon. William Atkinson, Minister of Agriculture, to whom questions were addressed, had little to say on the subject. Hon. W. A. McKenzie, Hon. R. L. Maitland and James H. Beatty rose to defend the payment.

George S. Pearson, Liberal, Nanaimo, started the discussion when he asked the Minister of Agriculture, through whose department the \$1,000 was paid, if he considered the payment of \$1,000 was justified.

Mr. Atkinson thought it was. "Has the Minister of Agriculture received any communication from the trade interested that it was not worth while?" asked Mr. Pearson.

"I don't recollect any at the moment," replied the minister.

The following letter from the Vancouver Wholesale Fruit and Produce Company Ltd., 133 Water Street, Vancouver, signed by fifteen other firms of wholesale row, Vancouver, addressed to Premier Tolmie, was then read by Mr. Pearson:

## VIGOROUSLY PROTESTING

"Our attention was drawn to an item in yesterday's press relative to a payment of \$1,000 to Mr. Hastings. According to the report this money was given by the government to this party to help defray expenses incurred on his trip to Jamaica in connection with the introduction of Jamaica citrus fruits into this province.

"For your information, citrus fruits from Jamaica have been imported by established Vancouver wholesale fruit firms for the past several years and at considerable expense, and when the government of this province has the audacity to subsidize, to the extent of \$1,000 of taxpayers' money, an individual who not only pays little, if any, taxes, has practically no investment in his business and goes directly to the retail trade with his wares to the detriment of the regular wholesale jobbers, then it is time to call a halt to such unwarranted squandering of public funds. What right has the government to jeopardize the business of accredited wholesale fruit dealers whose investments in Vancouver and Victoria approximate \$1,500,000 (upon which heavy taxes must be paid), and with an annual payroll of approximately \$375,000?"

"In vigorously protesting such expenditures, the undersigned Vancouver wholesale fruit dealers feel they have a prior claim to consideration by the government on questions vitally affecting their business, and desire this brought to the attention of the House, with a reply from you in the matter, at your earliest convenience.

"Yours very truly,

"VANCOUVER WHOLESALE FRUIT  
AND PRODUCE CREDIT CO. LTD."

The other firms endorsing the letter were: Chess Bros. Ltd., Clarke Fruit and Produce Co. Ltd., Swartz Bros. Ltd., Chapman Bros., B.C. Farmers' Exchange, H. A. Edgett, J. McMillan and Co., Brown Fruit Ltd., Independent Fruit Co., Hayward and Scott Ltd., F. R. Stewart and Co. Ltd., A. F. Slade and Co. Ltd., R. H. Ford and Co., Hastings and Co. Ltd., and B.C. Fruit and Produce Co. Ltd.

## OPENED UP LITTLE TRADE

After T. D. Pattullo, Leader of the Opposition, had commented the Minister of Agriculture appeared to know nothing about the matter and attempted to make no reply, Mr. Atkinson rose to his feet.

"Mr. Hastings has been a resident of the country for some time. I don't know how long," he commented. "He went to Jamaica and opened up a little trade. He made a couple of trips and paid his own expenses. I think it is worth the \$1,000 paid to him."

Dr. W. H. Sutherland claimed the Department of Agriculture had been called upon to pay \$1,000 to Mr. Hastings for his political activities as represented through newspaper letters. Wholesalers for years had been bringing in citrus fruits from Jamaica, he claimed.

"Tell the truth about it. It is for his political activities on behalf of the Conservative Association," said Dr. Sutherland.

"I am rather surprised at Dr. Sutherland," Mr. Beatty started as he stepped into the debate. "Don't be surprised at anything I may tell you," interjected Dr. Sutherland.

Mr. Beatty proceeded to claim that Mr. Hastings had helped to build up a British Empire market. Jamaica citrus fruit could not be obtained here until Mr. Hastings brought them in, Mr. Beatty claimed.

## GOOD LETTER WRITER

"Mr. Hastings is a good letter writer and his letters get under your skin," said Mr. Beatty.

"It will take a good deal of explaining to the people of Victoria," said Dr. Sutherland. "It appears to me you could make good trade agreements without consulting Mr. Hastings. You could get the information without consulting Mr. Hastings. You could get the information with a 2 cent stamp from the Minister of Trade and Commerce. If Mr. Beatty knew more than the Hon. Harry Stevens, Minister of Trade and Commerce, that was all well."

"Mr. Stevens is well pleased," Mr. Beatty interposed.

"Yes. He keeps awake thinking about it," retorted Dr. Sutherland.

Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Maitland supported the payment as in line with the policy of encouraging Empire markets.

"If there was ever a cold-blooded organization caring for nothing but dollars and cents, it was the wholesale row of Vancouver," said Mr. Maitland. "Can we make a dollar is their only interest," he said. They cared nothing about Empire trade.

Wholesale row in Vancouver was composed of Americans who had no interest at all in British Columbia products or empire trade, Mr. Maitland said.

Concluding the debate, Mr. Atkinson claimed that Mr. Hastings, through his visit, had doubled the British Columbia shingle trade with Jamaica and had introduced British Columbia pichlards, box shoots and strawberry jam.

As the discussion ended the Minister of Mines went to sit down in his chair, but the seat came off and Mr. McKenzie sprawled on the floor but was unhurt.

"The government has collapsed," commented Mr. Pattullo, "but no one will regret it."

# INQUIRY ENDS AMID PROTESTS

McGeough Only Passing In-  
cident When Air Clears,  
Berry Declares

On its twentieth session, the Legislature's committee investigating unemployment relief in British Columbia, concluded taking evidence to-day, and Chairman H. D. Twigg started work on the investigation report which is now being awaited by the Legislature.

T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, protested that there had not been produced before the committee evidence such as to enable the committee to pass competent opinions on various phases of the problem.

## SAYS INSTRUCTIONS NOT FOLLOWED

George S. Pearson, Nanaimo, declared that the committee had not carried out the resolution of instructions passed by the Legislature that it should "inquire into all matters, particularly with reference to the receipt and disbursement of all moneys received from the Dominion Government, showing such disbursement as made directly by the province, or by municipal authorities, and examine all phases of unemployment relief, direct and indirect, including the construction, equipment, cost and management of unemployment camps, with data as to rates of pay, number of persons afforded relief, and to require the production of papers, documents, vouchers, correspondence and books relating in any way to the subject-matter of the inquiry."

"This has not been carried out," said Mr. Pearson. "Only yesterday I was refused vouchers and documents before this committee. We have considered only one phase of this question, and that the least important phase as to whether the province was right in relation to its attitude towards the Dominion Government."

Chairman H. D. Twigg declared Mr. Pearson was out to turn the committee into a political arena.

## EXPLAINS MCGEOUGH JOBS

When the committee opened, Dr. W. H. Sutherland, Revelstoke, said evidence had been given in a misleading way Tuesday regarding the activities of M. H. McGeough, assistant director of relief in charge of B.C. for the Dominion Government. He said that in reference to the charge that Mr. McGeough had been holding two jobs, one with the C.P.R. in Vancouver and one with the provincial government, the head of the department of industries here had given him permission to carry on this way, as he was living on a department of industries property. To have someone living there was necessary under the insurance regulations. Since he resigned from the C.P.R. and the provincial government last fall, to take the Dominion Government position, he has continued to live on the industries' department property and look after it, without pay, although his presence there has enabled the department to comply with the insurance regulations.

"It is only fair to Mr. McGeough that the whole of the facts should be made known," said Dr. Sutherland.

"Mr. McGeough will become merely a passing incident in this whole thing when the air clears," said J. W. Berry, Ladner. "There has been too much importance attached to Mr. McGeough in the committee."

As the committee broke up, Mr. Berry commented on the "throw you out of the window" incidents between himself and A. M. Manson, Omineca, during the sessions of the committee. He denied that Mr. Manson should have credit for voicing the first threat. He said that at one of the sessions he sought to bring Mr. Manson around to conclude his questioning by taking his watch out and laying it on the table so Mr. Manson could see how late it was getting. Mr. Manson had then thrown it to him and said "I'll throw it out of the window," referring only to the watch. Mr. Berry had then replied that he would throw Mr. Manson out of the window. This was how the threat, which was referred to in succeeding sessions, had originated. Mr. Berry denied that Mr. Manson could throw him out of the window, although, laughing, he said he could throw Mr. Manson out if it came to a trial.

After all verbal blows and knocks of the last few weeks, the committee broke up with the members radiant with smiles.

# OIL MONOPOLY BILL DEFENDED

Rich Man's Game, Conser-  
vative Member Tells  
Legislature

Chances For Small Prospector Killed, Say Opponents  
of Bill

Detailed criticism of the new Petroleum and Natural Gas Bill, sponsored before the Legislature by Hon. N. S. Lougheed, went far yesterday afternoon to substantiate the claim of T. D. Pattullo that the measure was designed to place control of British Columbia oil fields in the hands of a monopoly.

Dr. R. W. Alward, Conservative member for Fort George, and Tom Uphill, Labor member for Fernie, in whose constituencies lie the potential Peace River and Flathead fields respectively, took vigorous objection to certain clauses as being onerous on prospectors and stakers who had not large financial resources.

Col. Nelson Spencer, Vancouver Conservative, came to the minister's support with argument that oil was not a little man's game.

"Only the man with big capital can get anywhere," he said. "It takes \$250,000 to sink a well."

Several clauses were stood over for further consideration. The fixed royalty of 12 1/2 cents a gallon was objected to by Mr. Pattullo, who claimed it should be either on a percentage basis or qualified by some phrase that protected the right of the Legislature to change it later if it were deemed wise. The fixed royalty on timber had not stood the test of time, he reminded the House. This matter is to be given further consideration, Mr. Lougheed finally agreed.

Mr. Pattullo said it was vitally important to protect the rights of the people because it was now reported oil was likely to be discovered on the line of the F.G.E. and was actually the basis of an agreement regarding the sale of the line. No ministerial comment was evoked by this rally.

## SMALL MAN'S CLAUSE

Tom Uphill persuaded the minister to stand over the requirement which limits to one year the period within which a lessee must begin work. Dr. Alward pointed out two years were allowed in Alberta and that a small man would require more than a year to organize his finances. One year limitation would not give the man of small resources a chance, he claimed.

Dr. Alward also protested that the requirement that a syndicate grouping ten claims must spend \$32,000 a year on development was too stiff. In Alberta the requirement was only \$2,000 for a group containing twice the acreage.

Mr. Lougheed said half could be remitted, but Mr. Alward said \$16,000 was still far above the requirements elsewhere.

"If they are really drilling they'll eat up \$32,000 all right," said Col. Spencer.

## BARS PROSPECTOR

Another section which prohibits a lessee from transferring any part of his lease and requiring that a transfer carry the whole interest was objected to by Dr. Alward on the ground that if a prospector staked a promising piece of ground he had no means of interesting capital and retaining a share for himself in return for making the discovery.

"The act recognizes partnerships," said the minister.

"It permits grouping of leases, but not partnerships involving a single lease," retorted H. F. Kerrin.

The provision by which the government may put at auction its 50 per cent share of each lease after oil has been discovered simply meant that the original staker would buy it in because he would be the only one with knowledge of its actual value, said Mr. Pattullo, criticizing another section.

"The whole measure simply puts British Columbia oil fields into the hands of people with money; the small man has no chance; it is a monopolistic measure," charged the Opposition Leader.

There will be further consideration of some of the disputed clauses.

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# City Should Have Separate Charter Member Suggests

## LEGISLATION MAKES HEADWAY

Hinchliffe Adjourns Debate on Second Reading of Healers' Bill

Film Quota Bill Passes; No Control For Educational Frills

Good progress in cleaning up the order paper was made by the Legislature yesterday afternoon. Opposition criticism was confined to the mere statement of a point where bills had been discussed on former stages.

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe set the minds of school authorities at rest by getting the Schools Act amendments out of report stage and down for third reading without introducing the much feared "frills" amendment. Nor did any private member essay to move it, as the minister had told a trustee delegation was possible.

Jack Loutet of North Vancouver spoke in favor of the Druggists' Physicians Bill on the second reading stage and Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe once more adjourned the debate without permitting a vote to be taken.

Third readings were given to the Municipalities Aid Act and the Amusement Tax Act. Mr. Pattullo emphasizing former opposition with a lusty "No." The film quota bill was also finally passed and by dinner adjournment the order paper was greatly attenuated.

**LOAN BILL**

When the \$7,500,000 loan passed through its two final stages at one sitting, T. D. Pattullo asked how much more than \$7,000,000 would be required to take care of accrued deficits. Hon. J. W. Jones said he did not know as the books were not balanced for the year which just closed a few days ago. He expected to be able to finance till next session, however.

"Maybe, and maybe not," commented the Opposition Leader. "This takes care of the past two years, but there looks to be another \$7,000,000 deficit coming up."

**LIQUOR PROFITS**

Protection against a school district suffering a decrease in its share of liquor profits because schools had been closed on account of contagious disease was provided for in an amendment to the bill amending the Liquor Act placed before the Legislature yesterday by Attorney General Pooley.

Mr. Pooley said the need for such an amendment had been drawn attention to by an instance in Ladysmith where disease had caused schools to be closed for some time. The amendment provided for grants to be based on an average attendance compiled on the days schools were in session.

## B.C. LEADS ALL IN RELIEF CAMPS

Comparative Figures For Provinces of Canada Compiled; 237 Camps Here

Compilation of the total numbers of relief camps constructed in the various provinces of Canada was completed at the Parliament Buildings to-day, following application for the information made by T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader.

The number of relief camps per province are reported as follows: Nova Scotia, 6; New Brunswick, 8; Quebec, 18; Ontario, no returns yet; Manitoba, 1; Saskatchewan, 20; Alberta, 12; British Columbia 237.

Victoria Member Pilots Municipal Act Amendments Through House

POWERS SOUGHT CALLED INSULT TO CITY ACT

Increased Taxation Privileges Discussed in B.C. Legislature

Amendments to the Municipal Act, giving power to municipalities to increase the mill rate for general purposes from 20 mills to 35 mills and to increase the tax on improvements from 50 per cent to 75 per cent, threw the spotlight on Victoria's financial troubles in the Legislature yesterday. Major George A. Walkem, Conservative, Vancouver, voiced the opinion that Victoria should be forced to seek a special charter. The amendments it sought for extraordinary circumstances were an insult to the Municipal Act and to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, he said.

The amendments, piloted by R. Hayward, Conservative, Victoria, carried in the face of opposition of J. Loutet, former reeve of North Vancouver, who complained Victoria was forcing legislation not desirable for other municipalities.

**LOUTET PROTESTS**

Mr. Loutet protested against improvements being included in fixed assessments, and unsuccessfully moved the section be struck out of the bill. Mr. Hayward said some taxation experts believed improvements should be taxed 100 per cent. Difficulties Victoria faced might make it necessary to increase the tax on improvements from 50 per cent to 60 per cent. If it were necessary the city should have the power. The privilege of placing taxation on improvements up to 50 per cent had saved the city when it was faced with a serious reverted land problem in 1922-23. Victoria took advantage of the improvement tax and as a result was in a much better position than it was years ago. No municipalities would be hurt through granting the power to increase the improvement tax and it might do good to some, Mr. Hayward thought. It was permissive legislation.

**SEES NO HARM**

A Wells Gray, Liberal, New Westminster, saw no harm in the legislation. If Victoria ratepayers did not approve they could turn out the aldermen next time they appealed to the people. He thought the municipalities could regulate themselves and the councils could take the responsibility. No other municipality outside of Victoria was taxing 50 per cent of improvements and Victoria was only seeking power to increase to 75 per cent if there was no other way out.

Mr. Loutet thought there should be no increase over 20 mills in the tax for general purposes until a 25 per cent tax on improvements had been levied. Otherwise it simply meant the confiscation of vacant lands, he claimed. Because Victoria had got into difficulties through guaranteeing grain elevator bonds legislation was being passed on to all municipalities. It was poor legislation, and if Victoria needed it it should ask for it in a private bill, Mr. Loutet thought.

## MILITIA OFFERS PLAN FOR IDLE

Officers Propose Scheme to Take Over Unemployed Members on Relief Funds

Regiments Disintegrating Under Present System, Committee Told

Militia officers of Victoria and Vancouver regiments to-day appeared before the unemployment relief investigating committee of the Legislature and proposed a plan to take over from the government the care of unemployed members of their regiments in the Armories instead of allowing them to be sent to relief camps in the country.

Capt. MacGregor Macintosh, M.P.P. of the Islands, introduced the military delegation. He spoke of the problem the officers have faced of taking care of the unemployed in their regiments and how they had evolved their plan in view of possible greater stringency next winter.

**UNITS BEING DISINTEGRATED**

"Present conditions are disintegrating our units when the men are sent out of the cities to camps," said Lieut.-Col. T. B. Monk of the 5th Coast Brigade, Canadian Artillery. "In our own brigade we have some seventy unemployed men. We are now giving them a meal a day at the Armories and letting them play there to keep them off the street. We now have a means of distributing relief through the regiment. We propose that the amount to be allowed for relief work for these unemployed men should be administered through the non-permanent militia. The money would be used to work around the armories and fix up the grounds outside. There would be a certain amount of parading and sports. We would be keeping these young men actively engaged."

"Ultimately we will have no militia at all, the way things are going on. The militia of Canada is being disorganized completely under the present system of camps. Our men are of a particularly good type and are always available in time of stress. The difficulties our men are up against are that they are being got at all the time by the communistic element."

**AVOID MISUNDERSTANDING**

George Pearson, M.P.P. for Nanaimo, said it could be assumed that the activities would not be such as to aggravate any feeling of the unemployed that the militia was being organized to combat their activities.

W. R. Rutledge, M.P.P. of Burnaby, declared an effort should be made to keep clear of any idea that the militia was being kept up by relief funds.

"Using the present organization for relief of the militia units would save the government money," said Major Sherwood Lett of the Irish Fusiliers, Vancouver. "It would have the effect of keeping our own men intact. We feel these men do give some sacrifice in joining the militia and we feel we owe these boys some duty in hard times."

Major Lett explained that in return for a pro rata allowance from the government relief expenditure, the regiments would take these men off direct relief.

Capt. Macintosh, in reply to members of the committee, said it was estimated that between 400 and 500 men would be taken care of under the scheme.

Chairman H. D. Twigg thanked the officers on behalf of the committee for bringing forward their proposal and said it would be considered by the committee.

Other members of the delegation were: Col. Perry, commanding the Artillery Brigade, Vancouver; Col. F. White, commanding First Battalion, R.C. Regiment, Vancouver; Major S. F. Moodie, Irish Fusiliers, Vancouver; Major G. Barton and Capt. C. L. H. Branson, 16th Canadian Scottish, Victoria; Capt. S. Bowden, 5th Coast Brigade, C.G.A.

## LIQUOR BOARD TO FORE AGAIN

Attorney-General Pooley Replies to Criticism of A. M. Manson

Dr. Sutherland Questions Method of Computing Breakages

Attorney-General Pooley essayed a retort in the Legislature yesterday against A. M. Manson's attack on the \$30,000-a-year three-man Liquor Board's administration.

The profit of 235 per cent on a particular brand arose from the fact that it was seized liquor obtained from the customs for the duty and sold at normal market price, Mr. Pooley explained.

To the statement that prices had been increased, he replied there had been a reduction in January and an increase in June, to take care of the new sales tax.

Head office expenses were \$81,000, not \$117,000, as claimed by Mr. Manson, he said. The ratio of administrative costs, he claimed, had never been as low as the 4.82 per cent quoted by Mr. Manson, and were to-day 6.2 per cent, not 6.49, as stated by the Liberal member.

**WHO PAID PRINTER?**

The \$18,000 printing cost was occasioned by getting out the first price list ever issued by the board, and the blue dodger quoting a favorable press editorial, was not paid for by the board. "Who else would be interested in getting it out?" scoffed T. D. Pattullo. "After the experience we have had of inaccurate figures from this government, we cannot accept the minister's statement. He might have had the courtesy to wait until the member for Omineca is in the House."

Mr. Pattullo pointed out also that Mr. Pooley seemed to be able to get Liquor Board information when he wanted it, but when members asked questions he hid behind the phrase "no official information."

G. S. Pearson, Liberal, Nanaimo, said it was obvious from the maintenance of a constant operating percentage in face of increased overhead and diminished volume of business that the board must be making more profit, and he suggested it was probably through the general decline in prices which the board had not passed on to the public.

Mr. Pooley's claim that the loss on breakages had been reduced by the present board was somewhat undermined when Dr. W. H. Sutherland, Liberal, Revelstoke, said he had learned there had been a change in method. Formerly the cases were sent unopened to the stores and breakages were charged to the vendors at retail prices. Now the cases are opened in the warehouse and the breakages charged at the purchase price, which was about half the retail price.



## TO INVESTIGATE PENSION CASES

**Legislature Passes \$5,000 Vote to Inquire Into All Mothers on List**

**Whitton Recommendations to End Abuses to Be Carried Out, Says Howe**

When Dr. H. C. Wrinch, Skeena, late yesterday evening questioned the vote in the estimates for \$5,000 for "supervision of charitable grants," Hon. S. L. Howe, minister in charge of the estimates, explained the government now intended to set up an organization to carry out an investigation of mothers' pensions, following the revelations of conditions in this province in the recent report of Miss Charlotte Whitton, secretary of the Canadian Council of Social Welfare, who came here from Toronto to conduct the inquiry.

"We propose to carry out the recommendations of that report," Mr. Howe went on. "We have had many abuses. This \$5,000 vote is to furnish money properly to investigate every case now receiving a mother's pension."

Tom Uphill, Fernie, wanted to know if it were not true that there were abuses in connection with the investigations, with women political workers going around with the government pensions investigators. He told how this practice was carried on in his riding.

"Women going around like this can cause a lot of trouble; they get very noisy," Mr. Uphill went on. "They see and foresee a lot of things a man can't."

Mr. Uphill said the political workers went around with the pensions investigators for political party purposes.

Mr. Howe asked for the name of one such government party worker who was privileged to go around with the pensions investigator.

Mr. Uphill gave the name of one person.

Mr. Howe said the case would be investigated, and he had the name taken by P. Walker, deputy provincial secretary, who sat at the minister's side on the floor of the House while the departmental estimates were being piloted through.

The motion for the \$5,000 vote carried.

## NAPIER CASE UP IN LEGISLATURE

**Pattullo Presses Minister About Dismissal and Civil Service Inquiry**

**Colonel Was Only "Discontinued" as Departmental Commissioner, Howe Says**

What had become of Col. Ross Napier, special commissioner of the provincial civil service and the Napier report prepared under orders of the government with its recommendations for changes in the provincial civil service, was the question brought up in the Legislature late yesterday evening by T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, during consideration of the civil service estimates.

"Why was Col. Napier dismissed so unceremoniously?" Mr. Pattullo asked. "Why was it that the first he knew of the fact that he was out of office was when his successor walked into his office in the Belmont Building and told him?"

"He is sitting up there in the gallery now," said Hon. J. W. Jones, Minister of Finance, pointing to the public gallery where Col. Napier and Mrs. Napier were seated.

"Col. Napier was government agent at Vernon and he was brought down from Vernon to revamp the service," said Hon. S. L. Howe, Provincial Secretary, under whose ministry the estimates under consideration came. "He made certain recommendations."

"Was that why he was fired?" asked Mr. Pattullo.

"The time came under the conditions of the economic depression when we could not go on with the increases in the civil service, and we did not need him to continue that work," Mr. Howe continued. "An order-in-council was passed to appoint him back to Vernon, but he refused to accept that position. Col. Napier knew for many months that the position would not continue. He was never civil service commissioner."

"Was he not dismissed?" Mr. Pattullo asked.

"No, only in that way; he was discontinued in the position of departmental commissioner," replied Mr. Howe.

"I wonder if it was not the same as the cases of Col. Latta and Major Clarke," Mr. Pattullo went on. "That is not the way to treat the civil servants of this country."

## NEW PLAN ON SOCIAL COSTS

**Vancouver and Victoria Want Amounts Deducted From Liquor Profits**

**Would Save \$43,000 For Victoria and \$109,000 For Vancouver**

Vancouver and Victoria municipal authorities believed to-day they had reached the long-sought compromise with the government over the rearrangement of municipal and provincial finances. Under a programme which they expected to be adopted by the government before night, Vancouver would save \$109,000 and Victoria \$43,000 this year, on the cost of social services.

The programme, in brief, is as follows: After collecting its liquor profits the government would determine how much all the municipalities of the province owed it for social services under the provisions of the Jones' budget, that is for half the cost of mothers' pensions, and for treatment of municipal residents in provincial institutions. This total sum, owed by all municipalities would be subtracted from the municipalities' total share of liquor profits. The remainder would then be distributed to the municipalities on the basis of school population, as usual.

This transaction would accomplish a highly important result. It would automatically distribute most government revenue to the municipalities which were most entitled to it because they had spent most for social services. Municipalities which had to pay least for social services on account of their residents would receive the least from the government. Without this arrangement, Vancouver and Victoria argue, they would not receive full consideration for their large expense for social services.

This programme was worked out Tuesday night at a conference between city authorities and members for the two largest cities. It was expected to receive government approval and the endorsement of the Conservative caucus some time to-day.

## Questions and Answers in the Legislature

F. M. MacPherson asked the Minister of Railways:

1. Have wages of any employees of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway been lowered since April 1, 1931?

2. If so, what classes of employees are affected, and what is the extent of such reductions?

Premier Tolmie replied:

1. Yes; from November 16, 1931.

2. Members of staff from 2 to 10 per cent, according to rate of wages; conductors, brakemen, locomotive engineers and firemen, and agents, 10 per cent.

Mr. MacPherson asked the Minister of Railways:

1. Is Seton Lodge, near Lillooet, operated by the Pacific Great Eastern Railway?

2. If so, how was such property acquired, and when; and what is the net profit to date of such operation?

Premier Tolmie replied:

1. Yes.

2. By lease from Department of Lands, Province of British Columbia, dated July 4, 1927; \$1,160.66."

Mr. MacPherson asked the Minister of Railways:

1. Did the government have representation upon an international commission appointed in 1931 to report upon the proposed Alaska Highway? If yes, has any report been made?

2. If so, what was nature of such report?

3. If so, was there any cost of said commission to the province; and what amount?

Premier Tolmie replied:

1. (a) Yes. (b) No.

2. Answered by No. 1.

3. Yes; \$87.55."

Thos. King asked the Premier:

"Was a cable of congratulation dispatched by any member of the government to any member of the British House of Commons after the recent general election in Great Britain; and, if so, by whom and to whom?"

Premier Tolmie replied:

"Yes; by Premier Tolmie to Rt. Hon. J. Ramsay MacDonald."

A. M. Manson asked the Minister of Lands:

Did a forest fire occur during 1931 in the vicinity of Niloki Lake, some seventeen miles southwest of Vanderhoof? If yes, did the department take steps to combat such fire; what was the area of timber burned; what was the total cost of combating said fire; when did said fire break out, and when did the department commence fire-fighting operations?

Hon. N. S. Lougheed replied:

"A fire occurred on Niloki Lake, southwest of Vanderhoof, which was extinguished by the forest service. Six hundred acres of merchantable timber were destroyed and 12,570 acres of unmerchantable timber and barren land burned over. Total cost of fighting fire was \$1,093.67. Fire started May 31. Crew collected, transported to fire, and firefighting started June 1."

Dr. J. J. Gillis asked the Minister of Public Works:

Were any buildings, property of the department, damaged by fire at Williams Lake since January 1, 1929? If yes, was any inquiry held into such matter; and, if yes, what was the result of such investigation, and what was the amount of loss sustained, if any?

Mr. McKenzie, Acting Minister of Public Works, replied as follows:

"Yes. Equipment-shed at Williams Lake. Matter was inquired into by provincial police and a full inquiry was held under Section 12 of Fire Marshal Act; it was found that there was no direct evidence against anyone. Net amount of loss, \$11,482."

Thos. King asked the Minister of Public Works:

1. Has any construction been carried out since January 1, 1929, on the road commonly known as the Big Bend Road, to connect Golden and Revelstoke?

2. If so, has any proportion of cost of such construction been borne by the Dominion government; and, if yes, what amount was expended by the provincial and Dominion governments, respectively, on such road during: (a) 1929; (b) 1930; and (c) 1931?

Mr. McKenzie, Acting Minister of Public Works, replied as follows:

1. Yes.

2. Yes. Federal government, by agreement, has undertaken the construction of the eastern section of this road, and, further, is contributing to the cost of the work done by the province on the western section and between Golden and Donald, under Un-

employment and Farm Relief Act, 1927, and also contributed towards expenditures between Golden and Donald under Unemployment Relief Act, 1930. For provincial expenditures see Public Works Report. This department has no information as to amounts of Dominion expenditures."

## M'GEOUGH GOT B.C.'S THANKS

**Purchasing Agent Rollins Wrote Appreciation, Major Martyn Reveals**

Major Don B. Martyn, former head of the provincial department of industries, in a statement to The Vancouver Province on the attack by the provincial authorities on M. H. McGeough, the Dominion government's unemployment relief official in B.C., tells how V. A. Rollins, purchasing agent for the province, had written a letter commending Mr. McGeough for his work without pay on behalf of the B.C. department of industries, and while he was holding his job with the C.P.R. in Vancouver.

After the committee had voted that Brigadier-General J. A. Clark, counsel for the committee, had the right to explore Mr. McGeough's "past," despite the fact that it had voted last week to prohibit Mr. McGeough from appearing before the committee again even to defend himself, the General put on the stand Andrew M. Innis, wharf freight agent for the C.P.R. at Vancouver.

Questioned by General Clark, Mr. Innis said Mr. McGeough had been employed by the C.P.R. in Vancouver from July 15, 1927, to September 30, 1931, when he resigned to take the relief job with the Dominion government. There were no black marks of any kind against McGeough in connection with his C.P.R. employment, said the witness.

The Province says Mr. McGeough did not please the authorities of the provincial departments when he questioned some of their expenditures in connection with relief camps and their equipment. Provincial officials took the ground when they had themselves ordered the goods and authorized payment, that was sufficient evidence that the transaction was entirely proper. The Dominion official, however, declined to pass for payment at Ottawa accounts which he believed might be based on extravagant prices.

Then he got a shock when a provincial government official on camp operation furnished him with the famous payroll showing 104 carpenters employed at one Fraser Valley camp at \$4 per day, when he said actually only a few carpenters were working there. There were emphatic denials of the "104" story. Then it was learned that the original provincial payroll with the 104 carpenters, names and all, was actually on file in Ottawa. The majority of the committee promptly announced that McGeough would not be allowed to give any further testimony. Much of Tuesday's session was devoted to an attack on McGeough.

Meantime McGeough had been called to Ottawa in some pressing matters affecting the federal unemployment programme and can not in any event get back here before the committee finishes its sessions and brings in its report.

From other sources The Province says it is learned that McGeough's services were secured some time ago by the provincial department of industries and he was instrumental in getting back into the provincial treasury \$100,000, besides some doubtful loans previously made. Since he took over the federal relief job, he continued to assist with some part-time service for the provincial department of industries without pay.

Major Don B. Martyn, formerly head of the provincial department of industries, told The Province he was much incensed at the unfair nature of some of the testimony taken Tuesday at Victoria. He said that the terms of the old arrangement of McGeough's employment—this was some time ago—were fully understood and agreed to, and that he rendered excellent service. In the course of time, Major Martyn handed over his own position to Victor Rollins, who is still head of the department. Major Martyn added:

"Mr. Rollins went out of his way to tell me that he had written to McGeough commending him for his service and thanking him for his effort to continue to assist, without salary, in looking after one particular industry during the time the department was then nursing along. This was at the time that McGeough was appointed by Ottawa as his representative here and he naturally could not continue to draw a salary for other work."

## Legislature House Committee

**Swift Action to be Taken to Prevent Interference Search War Hospital**

**BOARD OF MANAGEMENT JUDGE, MA**

**Provincial Police Raid Club Made; Char**

Legislation was all police committee out the province constituted, with of that of Vancouver under a is definitely for come of the situation, Victoria, which with police in their duties is legislation passed about which the little doubt, the vision of Victoria municipalities will within the next their places will of a police man or reeve and judge, with the as chairman.

**MAGISTRATE CO**  
As the result of the Attorney-General Magistrate George that police committee in and impeded after he had issued on the Victoria Yates Street, development.

After the Attorney-General's complaint by instructing police to support the raid which was day, consideration given to a change Act to meet the EFFECTIVE AT O

While the amendment this morning doubt that it will

It is expected to introduce the police commission police magistrate, and a mayor in elected bodies, in expected it will be made effective passing of the legislation has been discussed the House before to a head by the There have been complaints it is claimed alleged commission side their authorizations to the police

Authorities of under the Municipal Cussed (Turn to F



# Legislation Expected In House To-day To Abolish Commission Immediately

**Swift Action Follows Magistrate Jay's Complaint of Interference in Effecting Search Warrant on Victoria Hospitals' Club**

**BOARD OF MAGISTRATE JUDGE, MAYOR PLANNED**

**Provincial Police Step in and Raid Club After Complaint Made; Charge Laid To-day**

Legislation which will abolish all police commissions throughout the province as at present constituted, with the exception of that of Vancouver, which operates under a special charter, is definitely forecast as the outcome of the situation created in Victoria, where interference with police in the discharge of their duties is alleged. If the legislation passes the House, about which there appears to be little doubt, the police commission of Victoria and other municipalities will be discharged within the next few days. In their places will be a commission of a police magistrate, a mayor or reeve and a County Court judge, with the mayor or reeve as chairman.

## MAGISTRATE COMPLAINED

As the result of complaints made to the Attorney-General's Department by Magistrate George Jay to the effect that police commissioners had stepped in and impeded an order of the court after he had issued a search warrant on the Victoria Hospitals' Club, 642 Yates Street, developments have been rapid.

After the Attorney-General's backing of the magistrate's formal complaint by instructing the provincial police to support the city police in the raid which was carried out yesterday, consideration was immediately given to a change in the Municipal Act to meet the circumstances.

**EFFECTIVE AT ONCE**

While the amendment was not completed this morning there is little doubt that it will be sweeping.

It is expected the proposal will be to introduce the Ontario system of police commissions consisting of a police magistrate, a county court judge and a mayor instead of the present elected bodies, immediately. It is not expected it will be permissive legislation and it is expected the change will be made effective immediately upon passing of the legislation. The matter has been discussed among members of the House before but has been brought to a head by the situation in Victoria. There have been cases in other municipalities it is claimed where it has been alleged commissioners have gone outside their authority in giving instructions to the police.

Authorities of police commissioners under the Municipal Act were discussed this morning, following the (Turn to Page 2, Col. 5)

allegation that Police Commissioners Dorethy North and Andrew McGavin directed Chief Thomas Heatley not to have executed the search warrant on the Victoria Hospitals' Club where it was suspected a sweepstake was being operated. It was pointed out they have no jurisdiction over the police as far as their duties of preserving the peace, preventing crime or infractions of by-laws or in the apprehension of offenders is concerned. Their authority, the act sets out, is confined to engaging and dismissing police officers, holding inquiries on the discipline and conduct of officers, providing uniforms and pay and regulating the size of the force.

The subject is expected to be discussed in the Legislature this afternoon or this evening.

Under Sergeant Richard Harvey, a Provincial Police squad raided the headquarters of the Victoria Hospitals Club yesterday afternoon about 4 o'clock and seized approximately 30,000 "membership certificates," over 1,000 stubs and correspondence files.

This morning an information was sworn out by Inspector John T. Boulton charging James I. Davidson as manager of the club, under section 236 of the Criminal Code, relating to sweepstakes. The case will be before the magistrate within a few days.

## MAGISTRATE'S COMPLAINT

The Provincial Police stepped in yesterday on instructions of the Attorney-General as a result of a formal complaint made by Magistrate George Jay. The magistrate set out in his complaint that Chief of Police Thomas Heatley, in the course of his duty, had made application for a search warrant for the hospitals club. The warrant was issued on information sworn to by Inspector John T. Boulton last Saturday.

The complaint alleges that, as a result of interference by the commissioners, the warrant was not executed. Mayor Leeming, it states expressly, did not attempt to hinder the police.

## CHIEF EXPLAINS

On discovering the warrant had not been executed, the magistrate asked for an explanation from Chief Heatley, who frankly told him that the raid had not been conducted because of the orders of his superiors, the two police commissioners.

As a result of this, the magistrate made the complaint to the Attorney-General.

Immediate action followed the filing of this allegation, considered of a very grave nature. A squad of Provincial Police officers, including Sergeant Harvey, Corporal S. Cline, and Constables A. Carmichael and T. Flander, was dispatched to conduct the raid, and, accompanied by Inspector Boulton, visited the premises on Yates Street. As a result of the raid, the information charging Mr. Davidson was sworn out this morning.

## MAYOR BACKS ATTORNEY-GENERAL

Mayor Leeming made only a brief comment upon the matter this morning. He was fully in accord with the actions of the Attorney-General in sending the Provincial Police into the city to conduct the raid, he declared. As far as the police were concerned, he supported the chief in all his efforts for law enforcement.

The developments which led up to yesterday's sensational raid, and the subsequent government actions, arose out of a hurriedly-called meeting of the police board last Saturday morning, when the legality of the hospitals club project was discussed.

It was during this meeting, held in Chief Heatley's office, that the chief caused the search warrant to be sought. Counsel for the hospitals club attended the meeting and talked the matter over with the police commissioners and the officers of the club. The meeting was not a public one.

## DENIAL BY A. M'GAVIN

**Police Commissioner Issues Statement in Reply to Charge of Interference**

**Says He Knew Chief of Police Obtained Warrant; Denies Responsibility**

Police Commissioner Andrew McGavin, in a statement to The Times this morning, denied a charge that he had been a party to interference with the Victoria police in executing a search warrant against the Victoria Hospitals Club.

He declares he had received a lawyer's opinion that the scheme of the club was illegal and declares he was not responsible for the warrant not being executed.

## ATTENDED MEETING

"I was informed on Friday last to attend a meeting of the police commission at the office of the Chief of Police at 9.30 Saturday morning, for the purpose of discussing the Victoria Hospitals Club," said Mr. McGavin. "About 9.35 on Saturday morning I telephoned the chief's office and asked him if a meeting was being held and he said there was. I then attended at the office and found that the mayor had not arrived, and I insisted that he be there before any business was transacted. Upon the arrival of the Mayor, Alderman Williams and Mr. Brydon, on behalf of the Victoria Hospitals Club, explained the matter, and I immediately told them that I did not know anything about the matter, but I would not be a party to in any way interfering with the chief in the doing of his duty in enforcing the law. I also told Alderman Williams and Mr. Brydon that I should like to hear what their lawyer had to say regarding the legality of the proposition. They then sent for their solicitor, who came before the meeting and insisted that the matter was entirely legal and blamed the Chief of Police for interfering. The Chief of Police thereupon left the meeting and, I believe, obtained a warrant to search the premises of the said club."

"It was suggested by Police Commissioner Mrs. North that we, as police commissioners, give a letter to the Victoria Hospitals Club, endorsing their actions, but I said I would not be a party to anything of the kind, nor was I satisfied that the matter was in no way illegal. The meeting was then adjourned."

## CONSULTED SOLICITOR

"I consulted my solicitor on Monday and asked him to give me a written opinion as to the legality of the proposition and I received such opinion on Tuesday, about 6 p.m., which was to the effect that the said scheme was entirely illegal."

"After the Chief of Police obtained his warrant, he told me he had the same, but I never had at any time told or intimated to him in any way that the said warrant should not be executed, and if the same was not executed I do not see how I am in any way responsible or to blame."

## CHIROPRACTORS' VALUE DEBATED

**Medical Men Question Their Qualification in Legislature**

**Debate on Second Reading of Bill to Give Them Legal Status**

The subject of chiropractors again found members of the Legislature wide apart in their views when the bill before the House was up for second reading yesterday. Medical members of the House opposed the bill on the ground that chiropractors were not qualified to treat illness to the extent they sought. Support came from other members on the ground that chiropractors' services were demanded by the public.

Dr. E. L. Borden, Conservative, Nelson, adjourned the debate in face of opposition, which made a standing vote necessary. The vote was 24 to 14 for the adjournment.

Dr. J. J. Gibbs, Liberal, Yale, who opened the debate, noted R. Hayward had brought in the bill instead of H. D. Twigg, who had been champion of the chiropractors.

"I wonder if the first member for Victoria was looking to the interests of his own business," Dr. Gibbs commented with a smile. Proceeding, the member for Yale questioned the qualifications of chiropractors, comparing their training with that a doctor was forced to take before he was permitted to practice.

## EXAMINATIONS

He recalled legislation of 1921-22 under which chiropractors were permitted to practice if they passed an examination. The chiropractors had not taken those examinations because they were not able to, Dr. Gibbs claimed. They had argued they would not sit before a board which included medical men and wished a board composed entirely of chiropractors.

"That would be a case of the blind leading the blind," said Dr. Gibbs.

The medical profession was not opposed to the chiropractors or any other cult. They were interested in the protection of the health of the public. To cure sickness diagnosis was essential, and chiropractors had not proved they were able to diagnose or submit to examinations to prove their qualifications. He complained the scope of the Murphy Commission had been too limited in regard to chiropractors although it had been wide open in regard to drugless healers. The question of the efficacy of chiropractic was closed to the commission, barring out the very matter it was expected the commission would report upon.

## DOUBTS QUALIFICATIONS

"I know chiropractors are not qualified to practice," said Dr. Gibbs, "but we wanted the people to know, and it was unfortunate the commission was precluded from reporting on that phase."

If the bill went through, the government must take the responsibility, Dr. Gibbs commented, when Premier Tolmie pointed out it was not a government measure.

Dr. R. W. Alward, Conservative, Fort George, thought it would have been in the interests of the public if the scope of the inquiry had not been so limited. He opposed the bill on the grounds that while chiropractors had a field of usefulness, they could not treat all human ills as they would have power to do under the bill. He thought they should have legal status with their limitations in treatment specified.

Dr. C. M. Kingston, Conservative, Grand Forks, opposed the bill on similar grounds to those offered by Dr. Gibbs.

## "HERE TO STAY"

J. Loutet, Conservative, North Vancouver, said chiropractors were here to stay. Many people claimed they had been benefited by them. They should be given legal recognition.

Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., Minister without Portfolio, commended the legal profession for pointing out, at the risk of being misjudged, the dangers that might arise through treatment by unqualified persons. Mr. Maitland criticized those who fraudulently used the term doctor to give the impression to the public they were something they were not. He supported the bill because it would place chiropractors within their own limitations.

A confused situation was recreated a few minutes later when the Medical Act went through committee. As originally presented to the House this bill struck out the sections in the act which gave the medical council control over chiropractors. Dr. G. K. MacNaughton, sponsor of the bill, reintroduced them Wednesday, however, and the supporters of the chiropractors surprisingly did not object.

T. D. Fatsullo pointed out there would be confusion if the chiropractor bill was carried by the House.



# BILL TO WIPE OUT POLICE BOARD PLANNED

## Finance Minister Explains Working Of Wage Levy

Hon. J. W. Jones Explains In-  
come Tax Which Reaches  
Every Citizen

### OUTSIDE INCOMES ARE MADE SUBJECT TO TAX

Employers Continue to De-  
duct One Per Cent on  
All Cheques

Full details of how the new in-  
come tax provided for in the bud-  
get brought down at this session  
of the British Columbia Legislature  
will work were given to the House  
yesterday evening when Hon. J. W.  
Jones, Minister of Finance, spoke  
to the new income tax bill. Mr.  
Jones made it clear the bill calls for  
a one per cent tax on every wage  
cheque issued, announced what  
exemptions would be allowed and  
presented graduated tables as ex-  
amples of how the tax rising from  
one per cent to ten per cent will  
work.

#### OUTSIDE INCOMES

One important clause of which no  
previous intimation was given was  
disclosed when Mr. Jones announced that  
provision was being made for the tax-  
ation of incomes earned outside the  
province. This will make subject to  
taxation many incomes of wealthy  
British Columbia residents which are  
paid into banks in other parts of Can-  
ada. Exception is made in the case of  
investments made before the person  
concerned became a resident of the  
province.

"A new act has been prepared which  
deals with the taxation of net income,  
as separate from other taxes imposed  
under the Taxation Act. The essential  
provisions of last year's special revenue  
tax have been incorporated into the  
new act, so that in future there will be  
only one statute to deal with respect-  
ing income taxes," said the Finance  
Minister.

"The conditions under which three  
separate taxes were imposed in respect  
of the same income, namely, the net  
income tax, the gross income tax on  
trades, businesses and professions, and  
the special revenue tax, not only led to  
confusion, but gave rise to certain  
inequalities in individual cases, and  
caused additional administrative work.  
The adoption of the new Income Tax  
Act makes it possible to discontinue  
both the gross income tax and the  
special revenue tax."

#### FEATURES

Features of the new act were ex-  
plained by Mr. Jones as follows:

Personal allowances are now made  
positive exemptions instead of rebates  
as formerly, and the exemption appli-

able to a married person is also ex-  
tended to include a "householder."

The amounts of the various exemp-  
tions are as follows:

The exemptions under the Special  
Revenue Tax Act of last year are no  
longer applicable.

Husbands and wives who have each  
a separate income are entitled to one  
combined maximum exemption of \$500,  
and this, as well as the exemption for  
dependent children may be claimed by  
either or apportioned between them.

The methods of determining net tax-  
able income and the deductions allowed  
for expenses remain unaltered except  
as to minor details.

The rate of taxation commences with  
1 per cent on the first \$1,000 of taxable  
income, and is progressively increased  
by 1 per cent on each additional \$1,000  
up to \$10,000, at which point the maxi-  
mum rate is reached.

The effect of the graduation in rates  
as applied to a person's total taxable  
income is as follows:

Taxable income	Tax	Per cent of Total income
\$1,000.00 .....	\$10.00 .....	1%
2,000.00 .....	30.00 .....	1 1/2%
3,000.00 .....	60.00 .....	2%
4,000.00 .....	100.00 .....	2 1/2%
5,000.00 .....	150.00 .....	3%
6,000.00 .....	210.00 .....	3 1/2%
7,000.00 .....	280.00 .....	4%
8,000.00 .....	360.00 .....	4 1/2%
9,000.00 .....	450.00 .....	5%
10,000.00 .....	550.00 .....	5 1/2%
11,000.00 .....	660.00 .....	6%
12,000.00 .....	780.00 .....	6 1/2%
13,000.00 .....	910.00 .....	7%
14,000.00 .....	1,050.00 .....	7 1/2%
15,000.00 .....	1,200.00 .....	8%
16,000.00 .....	1,360.00 .....	8 1/2%
17,000.00 .....	1,530.00 .....	9%
18,000.00 .....	1,710.00 .....	9 1/2%
19,000.00 .....	1,900.00 .....	10%
20,000.00 .....	2,100.00 .....	10 1/2%
30,000.00 .....	3,000.00 .....	10%
40,000.00 .....	4,000.00 .....	10%
50,000.00 .....	5,000.00 .....	10%

#### DEDUCT ONE PER CENT

Until the passage of this act em-  
ployers will continue to deduct 1 per  
cent from the wages of their employees  
under the provisions of last year's  
Special Revenue Tax Act. But upon  
this act coming into force the exemp-  
tions of \$15 and \$25 per week will no  
longer apply, and employers will there-  
after be required to deduct 1 per cent  
from the wages of all their employees.  
The only exception being in the case of  
an occasional employee who is engaged  
in connection with the domestic estab-  
lishment of his employer, if the wages  
for the period of employment do not  
exceed \$5, no deduction need be made.

Employer's returns of deductions  
made from wages will be required to be  
filed at the same time and in the same  
manner as heretofore, and any em-  
ployers who have not been making re-  
turns by reason of their employees  
being previously exempted, should  
apply to the Commissioner to have  
their names put on record to receive  
the appropriate forms, and thereby  
avoid penalties.

The tax imposed by last year's Spe-  
cial Revenue Tax Act constitutes the  
minimum tax payable on the income  
assessed thereunder, and no refunds of  
taxes paid under that act can be made.

#### REFUNDS LATER

In future, however, deductions made  
by an employer from an employee's  
wages in excess of the tax due under  
the new act will be refunded to the  
employee upon receipt of his return of  
income.

The former conditions applicable to  
the time for filing returns under the  
Taxation Act will apply to the new  
act for the present year of assessment,  
and in view of the uncertainty attend-  
ing upon the change of acts, the Com-  
missioner will exercise the authority  
given him to extend the time for filing  
returns this year to April 30. As forms  
embodying the new provisions cannot  
now be printed in time, returns may  
be submitted on the forms previously  
in use, and the appropriate exemptions  
will be applied by the assessing staff.

#### ALL FILE FORMS

Everyone in receipt of any income in  
excess of the exemptions stated, whe-  
ther from wages or any other source,  
during the last preceding year is re-  
quired to file a return, and forms for  
this purpose may be obtained at the  
office of any provincial assessor. Wage  
earners from whom special revenue tax  
was deducted during 1931 should state  
the amount of such deductions up to  
December 31, and by whom they were  
made, so that the proper credit may be  
given against any greater tax payable.

All 1932 taxes will be payable on receipt  
of an assessment notice as formerly.

Commencing with the 1933 assess-  
ment year, taxpayers will be required  
to calculate their own tax, and pay at  
least one-quarter of the estimated  
amount with their returns, which, in  
the case of everyone who is not in  
business, are due to be filed not later  
than the last day of February in each  
year. The balance of the tax may be  
paid in three quarterly instalments  
with interest at 6 per cent. A penalty  
of an additional 4 per cent is provided  
for overdue payments. Business re-  
turns will be due as usual on the last  
day of March.

Guarantee, trust and loan companies  
and public utility corporations which  
were formerly exempted from taxation  
on their net income by reason of being  
otherwise taxed on their gross income  
under Part IX of the Taxation Act, are  
now made liable to the tax on net in-  
come to the extent that this tax ex-  
ceeds the tax payable on their gross  
income.

#### EX-PROVINCE BECOMES TAXABLE

Under the Taxation Act, residents  
were not taxable on any income earned  
outside which was not brought into  
the province; and this has been a direct  
encouragement for wealthy citizens and  
corporations to send their surplus  
funds outside the province for invest-  
ment and thus avoid taxation. Under  
the new clause such ex-province in-  
come will be taxable whether it is  
brought in or not, unless it is derived  
from capital invested outside before  
the taxpayer became a resident of the  
province. But this will continue to  
afford exemption on income left out-  
side the province by persons who come  
here to retire, and who had their funds  
invested elsewhere before they came  
here.

The Taxation Act exempted all in-  
come from farming operations; but the  
income of co-operative marketing or-  
ganizations was not so exempted. The  
new act reverses the former procedure  
and exempts income in the hands of  
the co-operative marketing organiza-  
tions, but distributions to the farmer  
members will be taxable in their hands  
if their income exceeds \$1,000.

#### CHIROPRACTIC

To the Editor:—When a man like  
Mr. Justice Murphy reaches the con-  
clusion, after a thorough investigation,  
that the chiropractors of British Co-  
lumbia are entitled to their own board  
of examiners and recommends legis-  
lation legalizing the establishment of  
such a board, that recommendation  
should be received with the respect  
and consideration which the judg-  
ment and integrity of its sponsor fully  
merit. It can hardly be dismissed upon  
the ground that the establishment of  
such a board would be "a menace to  
the public welfare." Such a contention  
would be a direct reflection upon the  
fitness of Mr. Justice Murphy to pass  
upon a matter at all and could only  
be urged by those whose opposition  
was inspired by motives other than  
concern for the public welfare.

Mr. Justice Murphy was not called  
upon to express any opinion as to the  
effectiveness of the chiropractic sci-  
ence. That matter, as well as educa-  
tional standards, was settled as far  
back as 1921 when, after a long and  
thorough investigation, the Legisla-  
ture of British Columbia passed an  
amendment to the Medical Act legal-  
izing the practice of chiropractic in  
the province, and when it confirmed  
that amendment in the following year.  
The question of the efficiency of  
chiropractors and their system was  
thoroughly threshed out at that time  
and decided in their favor, and the  
legislation now proposed does not deal  
with a matter which has already been  
passed upon.

The statement that "only those with  
full training of the requisite character  
and the ability to assimilate know-  
ledge can estimate aright the claims  
made by chiropractors to practice their  
profession," is typical of the kind of  
argument advanced by opponents of  
chiropractic. It sets theoretical know-  
ledge and intellectual capacity above  
practical experience and clinical re-  
sults. It maintains that those who  
have never made use of chiropractic  
adjustments, those who have no first-  
hand knowledge of the efficacy of such  
adjustments, are far better qualified  
to pass an opinion and to control the  
practice of chiropractic than those  
who have made use of such adjust-  
ments and are thoroughly familiar  
with the results that followed. It as-  
sumes, further, that the thousands  
who have benefited by the science  
know nothing about the efficacy of it,  
and are quite unqualified to pass upon  
its merits.

But if those who have made use of  
the system know nothing about it, if  
those who have been cured by it know  
nothing about it, then who, in the  
name of common sense, is qualified to  
pass upon it? Condemnation without  
trial belongs to the tyranny of the  
dark ages, and not to the progressive  
freedom of the twentieth century.

The assumption that the public is

a puerile infant, utterly incapable of  
determining for itself the merits of a  
legalized practice of healing, is far  
more of a reflection upon the intellec-  
tual ability of those who make it than  
it is upon the public intelligence  
which it disparages. If a system which  
has given ample evidence of its effi-  
cacy in the cure of human ills, is to  
be denied the public, then the "men-  
ace to the public welfare" lies with  
those who would suppress it, rather  
than with those who practice it.

Union Bank Building, 619 View  
Street, Victoria, B.C., April 6, 1932.

## SAANICH TAX

School Board  
For Confer-  
ence  
liffe Sch

Trustees Hold  
One Calls It "

Hon. Joshua H.  
legislation to auth-  
special school tax-  
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interest yesterday  
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the school trustees

Trustee Hobbs w-  
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#### WIDESPREAD TAX

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#### OBJECTIVE APPEAL

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tion was availabl-

#### MARRIED WOMEN

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Trustee Hobbs:  
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tution?"

Trustee Partida  
a man renting  
having three chil-  
fair to tax him as  
a shack who sen-  
public schools?"

Trustee A. E.  
proposal is very  
There are many  
who are not pay-  
costs of running  
they enjoy."

#### LONG-BOUGHT

Trustee Hobbs  
the school board-  
long been seekin-  
ish Columbia  
The taxpayers h-  
for years of the  
cost of education

The trustees al-  
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the council take-  
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mented within th-  
council, althoug-  
the new tax wa-  
Schools Act.



## SAANICH MAY TAX RENTERS

School Board Asks Council  
For Conference on Hinch-  
liffe School Levy

Trustees Hold Diverse Views;  
One Calls It "Biggest Farce"

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe's proposed legislation to authorize imposition of special school taxes on adult residents in municipalities was examined with interest yesterday evening by the Saanich School Board. Reeve William Crouch will be asked to call a joint meeting of the municipal council and the school trustees as soon as possible. Trustee Hobbs was instructed to request that municipal officials prepare for the conference information as to the adult population of Saanich, whether renters or property owners; probable percentages of collection monthly or annually, with estimates of returns possible from a per capita tax on adults, and what effect such a tax would have in lowering the school tax rate, now practically half the proposed Saanich levy of twenty-eight mills.

### WIDESPREAD TAX NET

The new legislation was introduced by a letter from Dr. S. J. Willis, Superintendent of Education, asking whether Saanich could do without a grant of \$929 allowed last year by the Department of Education, towards relief of land taxes in the Craigflower assisted school area, which is attached to Saanich. The new legislation forecasted by Dr. Willis would permit Saanich to impose a special per capita school tax on resident property owners, on tenants sending children to school and also on adult residents not property owners or having children. Such a levy would be collectable annually or monthly, with special protection for those unable to pay. No power would be given municipal authorities to exclude children from school if their parents refused or were unable to pay.

The trustees will notify the department that the withdrawal of the special grant to Craigflower would not affect Saanich, but would replace on Craigflower property owners a tax burden already admitted by the department to be onerous.

### OBJECTIVE APPROVED

The new legislation was examined with interest. A copy of the draft bill was presented by Robert Brydon, secretary, and trustees found many points of criticism. The objective of the minister was believed to be to relieve property-owners of the full cost of education, and to that extent was generally approved. Several of the trustees, when voicing criticism, stated that they did so with a desire to clear up weaknesses. Opinions expressed were not to be taken as final and might be changed when more information was available.

### MARRIED WOMEN PAY

Trustee Frank Partridge, after being told the new levy would have to be paid by married women, said: "This is the biggest farce. It is not workable. The people now tenanting homes will move around the municipalities."

Trustee Hobbs: "You think they will do so to escape a \$10 fine for school tuition?"

Trustee Partridge: "Suppose we have a man renting a fine house at \$40, having three children at school. Is it fair to tax him as much as the man in a shack who sends six children to the public schools?"

Trustee A. E. Hull: "I think this proposal is very reasonable, indeed. There are many residents in Saanich who are not paying a fair share of the costs of running the schools which they enjoy."

### LONG-BOUGHT POWER

Trustee Hobbs: "This is a power all the school boards of the province have long been seeking through the British Columbia Trustees' Association. The taxpayers have been complaining for years of the great and increasing cost of education."

The trustees agreed that there would be great difficulty in making collection effective, but the chairman disposed of that aspect by commenting: "Let the council take the responsibility for that. They have the machinery for collecting." Trustee Partridge commented that the matter was really more within the jurisdiction of the council, although the power to collect the new tax was incorporated in the Schools Act.

Trustee Hull believed the council would be better qualified than the school board to set the rates of the new levy, if it should be made effective in Saanich. It was also remarked that, when the new tax came under criticism at ratepayers' meetings and election campaigns, the council would desire to be able to blame the trustees for the innovation.

### LANDLORDS AS COLLECTORS

Trustee Hull stated that a speculator in Saanich had erected many cheap houses for rental purposes. The houses might be an asset to Saanich, but the fact that each was occupied by a large family converted an asset into a heavy liability. He believed the new legislation could be strengthened if the landlord was made responsible for collection of the tax from his tenants.

Trustee William Tomes strongly protested. "I know a house owner who has a tenant he cannot get rid of, although the man has not paid rent for months. He has been told his best plan would be to pay the occupant \$50 to get out. Why should that property-owner have to pay another tax?" he asked. When a case was cited where a landlord had taken the windows out of a house to regain possession, Trustee Tomes said, "Tax, taxes and more taxes; but the people have nothing to pay with." Trustee Hull then pointed out that exemption privileges were included in the new law.

Trustee Partridge said: "I am not opposing this proposal, but I really fear there will be so much trouble in collecting that the plan will become unworkable." He then seconded Trustee W. S. Thorpe's motion for a joint conference with the municipal council as early as possible. The motion passed unanimously.

## FILM CENSORS' VALUE DOUBTED

Criminal Code Provides Pro-  
tection, Says Vancouver  
Member

Appeal Board Frequently  
Overrides Censors, Legis-  
lature Told

G. A. Walkem started a debate on moving picture censorship in the Legislature yesterday when he urged abolition of the appeal board. He charged that of fourteen pictures rejected by the censors this year the appeal board had passed twelve and at the time he got his information had not yet viewed the other two.

### SOME COMPLAINTS

Attorney-General Pooley admitted there had been some complaints, but said he had recently adopted a new

system which would let the public know where the responsibility lay. Films rejected by the censor and allowed by the appeal board must be so marked on exhibition.

Mr. Walkem said the censors were paid by the government, but the appeal board was paid \$5 a picture by the appellants, which was wrong in principle. Attorney-General Pooley said when he took office the Attorney-General was the appeal board, but he felt he had not the time and appointed three outstanding citizens.

Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., said the whole censorship principle was wrong. The criminal code had dealt with indecency in public entertainment long ago. Censorship simply enabled people to impose their personal views on public entertainment, and he thought the appeal board had done good work overruling the censors. People nowadays expected the government to bring up their children instead of assuming their own family responsibilities.

When Dr. H. C. Wrinch endorsed Mr. Walkem's point that the appeal board should not be paid by the appellants, Messrs. Pooley and Maitland claimed they were not the kind of people to be influenced by the small fee. W. J. Baird, Robert McKee and Mrs. Bagley were the names of the appeal board. Mr. Pooley stated.

## BLOCK DEBATE ON ROSS NAPIER

Statement Contradicting Pro-  
vincial Secretary Barred  
From House

Former Civil Service Commis-  
sioner Denies He Was Told  
Position to Be Abolished

Efforts to bring before the Legislature a signed statement from Col. Ross Napier, dismissed civil service commissioner, flatly denying the truth of utterances made by Hon. S. L. Howe, Provincial Secretary, were frustrated by the government majority yesterday evening.

T. D. Pattullo, leader of the opposition, moved to reopen the vote under which Mr. Howe had made his statement. This courtesy is usually accorded when a member has new material to bring up, but in this case was summarily refused.

Col. Napier was engaged by the Tolmie government as a departmental commissioner to reorganize the civil service. For this purpose he was also acting civil service commissioner. In discussing the retirement of Col. Napier from the service, Mr. Howe stated Tuesday night that Col. Napier had been advised months before his position was to be abolished, and also that Col. Napier had not been dismissed.

### MIS-STATEMENTS ALLEGED

Mr. Pattullo had a signed statement from Col. Napier that both these statements by the minister were untrue.

When Mr. Pattullo asked to have the vote reopened to place this issue before the House, Mr. Howe offered to meet him in his office, but Mr. Pattullo said he believed the issue should be discussed in public on the floor of the House.

"There is too much of this secrecy," he declared.

Col. Napier's statement was as follows:

"I was present in the House Tuesday night when the Hon. S. L. Howe, Provincial Secretary, made certain statements regarding my dismissal from the Civil Service. I regret to say that while the minister endeavored to smooth his remarks by stating that he had no fault of any kind to find with me, and that I had done some very good work, the greater part of his speech was made up of deliberate mis-statements, most of which were definitely known by the minister to be such, and the rest of the speech was characterized by half-truths and omission of essentials."

"Had the minister stated the truth, as he once admitted to me, that I had to be sacrificed so that a political appointment might be made from outside the Civil Service for which, he added, the government would have to assume the responsibility, one might at least have had some respect for him as a supporter of the patronage system, but the statements made by him are on a par with all other actions in connection with the matter."

### NEVER CONTRADICTED

"I was compelled by deliberate mis-information handed to the press to issue a statement which was published in The Victoria Daily Times, September 26, 1931, and not one word of that statement has ever been contradicted by the Hon. Provincial Secretary or any member of the government. I do not propose to recapitulate, but copies of the statement may readily be had."

"Some of Tuesday night's statements follow, with my comments:

"Mr. Howe: 'Colonel Napier was advised some months before that his position was to be eliminated.'

"Note: The position has not been eliminated, but has been united with the position of Civil Service Commissioner. When I first heard of my contemplated removal on the 15th August, 1931, through the visit of my successor, Major Monteith, I immediately phoned the Provincial Secretary, who informed me he could give me no explanation or information regarding the matter. Mr. Howe had assured me at every interview I had with him from April, 1931, that, although the additional appointment as Civil Service Commissioner had not gone through, everything remained exactly as before in the previous fiscal year regarding myself. This was again stated as late as the month of June, 1931."

"Official notes show that after I had been informed that through some political hitch the Civil Service Commission was not to be added to my duties as arranged, Mr. Howe definitely promised me on April 20, 1931, that I would be consulted by the Executive if any arrangements were contemplated which would affect my position. I obtained this promise, as only my salary was available for the two positions. At the only interview which I have had with Mr. Howe since my contemplated dismissal was made known to me by my successor, he again promised me an interview with the Executive at their regular meeting the following day, as he vehemently denied all responsibility in the matter. Neither promise was kept, and I have never been accorded an opportunity of saying a word on my own behalf. In fact, after two letters had been sent to the Provincial Secretary without reply, it was necessary for me to write to the Hon. the Premier regarding the matter. I eventually received an unconsciously humorous letter from the Provincial Secretary. Although definitely out of the service as at August 28th, 1931—and still out of it—this letter assured me I 'had not been dismissed.'"

"Mr. Howe: 'Colonel Napier was not dismissed from the service.'"

"Note: Some of the Provincial Secretary's statements could readily be disproved by documents, by correspondence and by evidence were it desirable, while others might depend on the veracity of either of us, but it is surely taxing the credulity of the members of the House to ask them to believe that, in times such as the present, I, a disabled, married man of middle age, with only a small pension, voluntarily decided to relinquish my position in the Civil Service, to give up all my many years towards superannuation, and to face the problem of re-establishing myself all over again, without being absolutely compelled to do so. However, if there be any doubt in any minds as to the truth of the Provincial Secretary's statement, the following should satisfy anyone, this being the first official communication I received regarding the matter:

"Office of the Provincial Sec'y,  
Victoria, Aug. 28, 1931."

"Colonel R. Ross Napier,  
Belmont House, Victoria, B.C."

"Sir,

"I have to acquaint you that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor in Council has this day approved an Order-in-Council rescinding your appointment as Departmental Commissioner under the 'Departmental Inquiries Act.'"

"I have further to advise you that Major Roger Monteith has been appointed to the said position as well as that of Civil Service Commissioner, and to request that you will be so good as to transfer all the records, etc., of your office to him."

"I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
P. WALKER,  
Deputy Provincial Secretary."

"At the same time an Order-in-Council was passed for purely press and political purposes announcing my appointment as Government Agent at Vernon, although it was known to the Hon. the Premier and the ministers affected eight days before that date, that such an appointment had been rendered impossible."

"If the Provincial Secretary has even by frequent repetition created a belief that his statement has any claims to accuracy, a perusal of all correspondence in connection with the matter should assist in enlightening him."



## Across The Bay

Late nights make a dull House—but we cheer up after a while—Mr. Pattullo beholds a public asylum, this time successfully—Mr. Jones looks at the wrong page—and Mr. Uphill can give some lessons.

By H. E. W.

IT WAS a tired and gloomy House which met on Wednesday afternoon. The 1 o'clock sitting of the previous morning had left its mark on everyone. No one wanted to talk, which was a rare blessing, no one wanted to do anything which might prolong the session over next week-end. The whips said the day's progress would determine that awful issue, but whether it was sufficient to let us out of here before Monday or not, no one knew for sure.

THE FIRST PART of the afternoon was spent in the old and troublous question of chiropractic. For ten years this House has wondered what to do about chiropractors, and for ten years it has avoided doing anything. Now it has to decide one way or the other, and it is finding that extremely difficult, especially as each member is allowed to think and decide for himself.

ON A GOVERNMENT measure it is so much a simpler. You just vote with your party, having said what you think in caucus and abided by the majority therein. But on a bill of this sort, where neither party takes a stand, where opinion cuts clear across party lines, you do as you like and you talk as you like. This privilege the articulate back benches seem determined to exploit to the full, while the inarticulate ones at least will have to vote according to their own consciences.

DR. GILLIS of Yale delivered another of those simple speeches which impress with their obvious sincerity and he appeared as usual in the role of chief critic of chiropractic. To Dr. Gillis chiropractic just isn't scientific, and, as a scientific man, he revolts at the thought of perpetuating it. Dr. Kingston, another medico, felt the same way, which was not surprising, and before the argument was over we found ourselves in the midst of a learned but extremely dull debate on subluxations of the spine, serums—of which Dr. Kingston exhibited a sample in a tube—vaccines, and many other grisly tools of the medical craft.

FINALLY DR. BORDEN sought to adjourn the debate, to take up the argument again later, but many members, determined to get home for the week-end, chiropractors or no chiropractors, demanded that the debate go on. The custom of parliament is to allow members to adjourn debates. It is, indeed, an unwritten law. But in a crisis of this sort there is no time for these refinements of parliamentary courtesy. Dr. Borden's own friends in the Conservative benches were loudest in their demand for action, but when a division was taken—an extreme measure in such a case—parliamentary courtesy triumphed and the debate stood adjourned.

WE WENT ON then with legislation, rather rapidly, for no one wanted to discuss it, and our hope of home by Saturday night rose again.

SO DID OUR spirits after a good dinner, and we were ready at last to begin the real business of this session, Mr. Jones's new tax law. Mr. Jones fairly purred as he told how he was reaching out to get new revenues from those who could afford to supply it, particularly from the rich who keep their money outside the province. Mr. Pattullo, protesting that this was a bad time in the session, in the dying hours and all, to bring down this measure, adjourned the debate.

WE THEN VERGED for the second time on the Ross Napier case when Mr. Pattullo sought to reopen one of the estimates so as to read a statement from Colonel Napier charging Provincial Secretary Howe with deliberately false statements about him. But as Minister of Education Hinchliffe shouted "No!" with stern determination, the Conservative majority refused to open the vote, a proceeding rare indeed. And, as Mr. Pattullo remarked, it would do no good anyway, since the facts would get out anyway, and such tactics would only prolong the argument over other estimates—a nicely-worded threat which did not escape unnoticed.

THERE FOLLOWED a sample of what Mr. Pattullo can do with estimates when he wants to. He plunged us up to the neck into the old, old question of deficits and boldly proclaimed that the government's shortage for the year which ended last Friday would turn out to be \$8,000,000, which he sought to prove by official figures. Mr. Jones answered just as boldly that this was all wrong, that Mr. Pattullo's minnows always were exaggerated into whales; but very cannily, very much like the well-trained finance minister, he gave

us no inkling as to what the deficit would be.

THEN MR. PATTULLO began to read figures from the comptroller-general's report to establish his case, and Mr. Jones cut in pleasantly with, "Wrong again!" Mr. Pattullo paused impressively and assumed a studied look of utter amazement. What, he asked, were we coming to? No one seemed to know. Well, Mr. Pattullo would tell us. He would tell us that we were becoming a public asylum. Happily Mr. Hayward was presiding, and he had no objection to these words, which had shocked the more delicate sensibilities of Mr. Speaker. Yes, we were becoming a public asylum when finance ministers denied figures which they had themselves given the House, and Mr. Pattullo was proceeding to elaborate his theory of official lunacy when it was discovered that Mr. Jones had been looking at the wrong page. Mr. Jones acknowledged the error. The galleries tittered.

WE WENT ON as we always do through the usual stages—the old government's deficits, the impassioned demand for an election, and the virtuous reply that the government will rest its verdict with the public in good time (since it can do nothing else).

MORE INTELLIGENT to the lay mind was the argument which followed on movie censorship. Mr. Walkem said we were operating under an absurd censorship system when the censors could reject a dozen pictures and find them allowed by the appeal board. Mr. Maitland became quite oratorical in defending the liberty of the subject, the right of the people to see what pictures they liked, and the duty of parents to bring up their children properly instead of leaving that duty to the state. Dr. Gillis demanded stricter censorship, and told of the sad case of little Jimmy, whose life would never be the same again after he had seen an advertising poster outside a movie house somewhere in the great open spaces. But Mr. Uphill was all for leaving the people to look after their own morals, though he admitted that many of the pictures that he had seen on the Coast were unintelligible to him and simple men like Cap Fitzsimmons, from the sticks, who "don't really know life." As for Mr. Uphill, he found tragedy enough in the House without seeing it in the theatre—something jolly and bright was needed, Mr. Speaker, and as for all the "kissing and loving" in the movies, well, Mr. Uphill, on his own statement, could give the movie lovers lessons. Which the House seemed to consider so delicious that it remained cheerful for the rest of the night.

## B.C. POLICE FORCE LAUDED

No Consideration Being Given to Transferring Control, Says Attorney-General

Would Cost Province More to Turn Duties Over to Royal Mounted Police

Attorney-General Pooley made it very clear in the Legislature yesterday that he was not contemplating following the example of some of the other provinces of Canada and turn the policing of British Columbia over to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Financially British Columbia would suffer by such a change as the provincial police did a lot of work for various departments of the government which the federal police would not do. As far as the B.C. police were concerned Mr. Pooley thought there was no better body of men in the world.

### OTHER DUTIES

Forty-five per cent of the work of the provincial police was for government departments, the Attorney-General said. If the federal police were brought in all that work would have to be paid for separately. There was no question a lot would be gained by one police force throughout the province. Twenty-two municipalities had turned their police work over to the provincial force and not one of them had gone back on it.

Early in the evening the matter had been raised by Dr. J. J. Gillis, Liberal, Yale, and at this stage he repeated there was lack of co-operation between provincial police, municipal police and Indian police in the Nicola Valley.

### WANTS ONE FORCE

Major George Walkem, Conservative, Vancouver, thought with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, municipal police, provincial police, city police, harbor board police and C.F.R. police operating there were too many forces in the province.

"Why can't we have one force?" he said, pointing out the Royal Canadian Mounted had taken over police duties in Saskatchewan, Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. If they had done it there they could do it in British Columbia.

"If we did that we would have more co-operation," said Major Walkem, claiming that in some small towns police of different forces hated each other and blocked one another's efforts.

"Flatly do I contradict the member when he says there is not co-operation," said Attorney-General Pooley. "You don't know, that's all," said Major Walkem.

"I am in charge, and I should know," hotly retorted the Attorney-General. "You don't," came back Major Walkem.

"Give us your complaints," said the Attorney-General. "It is the first I ever heard of them. The commissioner is by my side, and it is the first he heard of them."

"Go up there and you will find out," said Major Walkem.

Later in the discussion Major Walkem said he had no complaint to make of the provincial force. He was not recommending any particular force

take over police duties of the province, but that there should be one force.

### A TRIBUTE

A. Wells Gray, Liberal, New Westminster, paid a tribute to co-operation of the provincial police force in his municipality and J. R. Mitchell, Conservative, Kamloops, paid a tribute to the force in Kamloops.

Mr. Gray joined with T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, in claiming it was an injustice that the salary of the Commissioner of Provincial Police should be lower than that of the head of the game board. The force had been added to during the year, said Mr. Pooley, and it was probable more additions would have to be made.

## BILLS PROCEED THROUGH HOUSE

Little Discussion on a Number of Measures Before Legislature

Swift progress and little debate marked the passage through various stages of a number of bills in the Legislature yesterday afternoon.

Every five years the board administering teachers' pensions in British Columbia is to be compelled to submit its operations to actuarial examination and to govern its future administration by the findings made under a bill amending the Teachers' Pensions Act, which was given second reading yesterday. Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, Minister of Education, said other amendments gave the board power to act more justly in handling certain situations and more stringently in admitting persons to the list of those eligible for pension.

Second readings were given to three other short government bills. Hon. W. Atkinson asked to amend the Agricultural Act in conformity with Dominion legislation for the regulation of pests. Hon. R. L. Maitland sought to modify the law with regard to contributory negligence on a more equitable basis as the result of decision recently given by the court of appeal.

### LOAN ASSOCIATIONS

Attorney-General Pooley put through

technical amendments to the act governing savings and loan associations. The amendments provide that after the guarantee funds of an association get below a certain limit no more guaranteed stock can be issued until after the funds have been re-established. They also call for financial statements to be filed with the government inspector twice a year instead of only once.

### GRAND JURIES

The bill providing for the abolition of the grand jury system in British Columbia passed second reading with a warning to Attorney-General Pooley by Mr. Pattullo that the action might be regretted. Replying to a motion of criticism on the action of the Attorney-General in not consulting the House before he made a recommendation to Ottawa for the abolition of the grand juries, Mr. Pooley said, through the Chief Justice, he had secured the opinion of all the judges of British Columbia. With the exception of one who said he had an open mind on the matter all were in favor. Provision was made to return special juries.

### SALES ACT

Further amendments were introduced to the bill amending the Conditional Sales and the Bill of Sales Act to conform with the earlier bill calling for registration of all automobile transfers at the Provincial Police office in Victoria. The new method might mean an extra clerk would have to be employed and the amendment provided for the extra expense. Another amendment dealt with repossession of cars sold on time payments.

### ROYALTY CHANGED

Second reading was given to an amendment to the Petroleum and Natural Gas Bill. The amendment changed the royalty section to read not more than ten or less than five per cent of the value of the petroleum found. Formerly it called for a royalty of 12½ cents a barrel.

Second reading was given to a bill amending the estimates of revenue and expenditure to provide for payment of \$4,287 last year as a subsidy for the Woodward-Ladner Ferry and for \$5,000 to be paid this year.

### ELECTION ACT

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe produced some further amendments to the elections act, which were originally tabled in the lean days at the start of the session. One reveals part of the redistribution scheme by naming the Vancouver constituencies as:

Vancouver Centre.  
Vancouver East.  
Vancouver Point Grey.  
The condition of labeling naturalized voter contained in the original bill is removed, but naturalized citizens are required to produce their certificates when registering.



# Last Fight Against Cut For University

Minister Adamant So Arguments Futile, Say Liberals in Legislature

Say Reduction in Grants, If Necessary, Should Have Been Gradual

Opposition members briefly went on record as opposed to the cut from \$462,700 to \$250,000 in the grant of the University of British Columbia when estimates of the Department of Education were under consideration.

The university vote had been held over for two days through the absence of A. M. Manson, K.C., who wished to discuss it, but as he was unable to be present at yesterday's session proceeded in his absence.

## VOICE REGRETS

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, Minister of Education, had intimated that he would not recede from his position, opposition members commented, so they could do little more than voice their regrets at the great reduction in the grant.

T. D. Pattullo deplored the sudden big cut in the grant. If the cut were necessary it should have been made gradually, not in such a way as to dismantle the institution. If the government had exercised reasonable prudence in other directions the drastic cut would not be necessary.

Dr. H. C. Winch, Liberal, Skeena, was informed the university's revenue from students' fees was estimated at \$250,000.

## RESEARCH WORK

Emphasizing the value of research work in a province with the basic industries British Columbia had and the success the university had had in this direction, A. Wells Gray, Liberal, New Westminster, drew attention to a \$500 grant made by the Empire Market Board conditional upon the amount being duplicated, and asked if this could be protected.

Mr. Hinchliffe was not in a position to say whether the research branch was to be continued. It was a matter for the board of governors of the university, he said, and as far as he knew they had not decided. It was the right

and duty of the governors to make use of the money at their disposal any way they saw fit for the benefit of the university.

Premier Tolmie said he realized the value of research and promised to take the matter up with the governors.

Mr. Pattullo charged the Minister of Education had set out to justify the creation of a separate portfolio of minister of education by proceeding to dismantle the university. Now it was revealed he was without knowledge of how it functioned.

"It is not under the Department of Education," Mr. Hinchliffe said. "It is operating under an act which says the board of governors will make use of its resources any way it thinks best." Mr. Hinchliffe also asserted the board had co-operated loyally with the government when they realized it was essential to cut the grant.

# MORATORIUM ON MORTGAGES

Plan Adopted in War Period Is Sought By Vancouver Officials

Re-enactment of the war-time moratorium law of 1915 in British Columbia providing for a postponement of principal and interest payments on mortgages was urged on the government here to-day by the city of Vancouver through its solicitor J. B. Williams.

With strong support among conservative members the city was hopeful that its plans would be adopted in place of a more restricted programme which was originally suggested.

In effect the legislation advocated by Vancouver gives the courts absolute power to postpone the payment of principal sums, to postpone payment of interest for any specified time according to the mortgagor's ability to pay, and to order the continuance of maturing mortgages at existing interest rates. So that poor property owners shall not be faced with petty legal costs, Mr. Williams suggested that the government allow the courts to forego their ordinary fees in extreme cases.

Mr. Williams believes that the cost of an application to the courts for relief would not be large enough to embarrass any property owners.

"The war-time legislation," Mr. Williams said, "was eminently satisfactory to all concerned and would seem to cover the present situation quite adequately. But certainly the proposal to allow postponement only of principal payments would not meet the present difficulties."

"What is wanted is a power vested in the courts to provide a real continuance of the present mortgage structure and to prevent property owners being penalized unduly through high interest rates or demands for principal payments by the present economic situation."

"It was found during the war that in the year preceding the moratorium Vancouver collected only fifty-six per cent of its taxes whereas in the next year some eighty per cent was collected. It is evident therefore that the municipalities have a very vital interest in protecting property from foreclosure."

# GAME BRANCH STAFF INTACT

Will Carry on With Same Number of Wardens, Says Attorney-General

Chairman's Salary Contrasted With Police Head's Pay

The game branch will carry on with the same number of wardens as in the past, Attorney-General Pooley stated in answer to questions in the Legislature yesterday when the estimates of the branch were under consideration.

The game wardens also did a lot of police work when necessary, and but for them it would have been necessary to employ a lot more policemen recently. Game wardens had relieved other policemen during the Bagley hunt.

T. D. Pattullo, Opposition leader, noted the salary of the head of the game board was \$200 a year higher than that of the Commissioner of Provincial Police, who formerly filled that position in conjunction with his police duties.

Mr. Pooley claimed the duties of the present head of the board were formerly carried out by a game board which cost \$10,000 a year.

There should be no comparison, A. Wells Gray thought, with the salary of the Commissioner of Police and the head of the Game Board. The commissioner should get far more.

The fact that men had been transferred from the police force to be made game wardens had meant more men had had to be appointed to the police force, Mr. Pattullo remarked at a later stage in the discussion.

Major George Walkem doubted if game board officials realized the potentialities of game from the revenue producing point of view. He believed game was British Columbia's best crop and could be made to provide greater returns than agriculture.

# DEFICITS ARE IN SPOTLIGHT

Will Amount to \$8,000,000 For Year Ending Last March, Says Pattullo

Finance Minister and Opposition Leader Again Lock Horns

"I said last year the estimates were padded and fraudulent and gave reasons why I made that statement. What has transpired since has proved that I was correct," T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, said in the Legislature yesterday when the estimates of the Attorney-General's Department were under discussion. Hon. J. W. Jones, Minister of Finance, challenged Mr. Pattullo's figures as being drawn from imagination.

Claiming a deficit of \$8,000,000 would be shown for the year ending March 31 last, Mr. Pattullo compared the \$28,000,000 estimate of revenue with the collection of \$16,369,000 for the first nine months of the fiscal year as shown by the last Comptroller-General's report. The largest portion of revenue was collected in the first nine months, but allowing a full quarter it would only bring the total up to \$20,000,000.

Mr. Jones admitted a deficit of \$2,000,000 was incurred in the first nine months but denied there would be an \$8,000,000 deficit for the year.

"My friend is working on the assumption we spent the whole of the \$28,000,000. This government started to economize before the nine months' period was up. We saw falling revenues and we retrenched," the minister said.

Mr. Jones and Mr. Pattullo locked horns again over deficits. Mr. Pattullo charging that in four years the present government had incurred a greater deficit than the previous administration incurred in twelve.

# ANGLERS' BILL RUNS GAUNTLET

Dollar License Fee Proposal Draws Criticism in House

Hardship Would Be Worked on Some People, Members Say

Under a barrage of Liberal, Labor and Conservative criticism, the Game Act amendment requiring anglers to pay an annual license fee of \$1 was withdrawn from the Legislature yesterday afternoon by Attorney-General Pooley with the prospect that it will undergo amendment.

The final suggestion that seemed to impress Mr. Pooley was that old-age pensioners and unemployed persons on relief be exempted.

T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, said that with all the new imposts nobody would be able to take any enjoyment without paying a tax. Tom Uphill, Labor member for Fernie, said many miners and others in his district working for only a day or two a week were accustomed to catch fish for food.

Dr. C. H. Winch, Liberal member for Skeena, said he knew of several old-age pensioners who required what fish they could catch to enable them to live on their \$20 a month. Dr. C. M. Kingston, Conservative member for Grand Forks, said he believed these classes should be exempt, and at his request the bill was withdrawn from further consideration for the time being.

Mr. Pooley and Capt. Macgregor Macintosh said it was the fishermen who had asked for the bill in order to make a fund for restocking the streams. Dr. Winch said that might be advisable on Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland. He urged that the bill be confined to that area.

Mr. Pattullo said it was not too bad to tax sportsmen for the purpose of restocking the streams, but others should not be required to pay where they needed fish for food.

# FINE SHARING PLAN SCORED

Vicious and Rotten, Says Hon. R. L. Maitland in Debate in House

Attorney-General Agrees to Forward Protest to Ottawa

The moiety system under which a police officer received a share of fines collected in his district came in for criticism in the Legislature yesterday when Dr. J. J. Gillis, Liberal, Yale, raised the subject during discussion of the Attorney-General's estimates.

Asking the Attorney-General if he had, in the interests of economy, given consideration to the duplication in police work, Dr. Gillis said in some districts a municipal policeman, a provincial policeman and a Dominion policeman all worked together. In some instances Dominion officers received a small salary and a share of fines collected in the district. This system tended to arrests being made of harmless "drunks," whom it would be better to send home to bed, for the sake of collecting the fines.

Attorney-General Pooley agreed the system was bad and agreed to write to Ottawa in criticism of it. Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., described the system as vicious and rotten.

Mr. Pooley said he had not approached Ottawa to have the Dominion Government take over any of the work done by British Columbia police,

# Birthday Greetings Are Extended To-day To—

ALAN CALVERT



ALAN CALVERT  
—Photo by Steffens-Colmer.  
Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms, whose stentorian voice clears the way for Mr. Speaker at the opening of each sitting of the Legislature. He is a member of the Deep Cove School Board, a justice of the peace, past president of North Saanich Branch, Canadian Legion, and company sergeant-major of the 13th Field Ambulance, C.A.M.C.  
He acknowledges Leeds, Yorkshire, as his birthplace, but claims Deep Cove for his home, where he is active in veteran and community affairs.



# Chiropractors Gain In Independence Battle

Bill Given Second Reading Gives Right to Own Examining Board

Majority of One Carries Measure a Stage Through Legislature

By one vote and with members of both parties dividing on the issue, chiropractors of British Columbia secured a victory after twelve years of fighting when second reading was given to the bill giving them their own examining board.

The vote in favor of the measure to give the chiropractors control of their own affairs apart from the medical profession was 22 to 21. Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, Minister of Education; R. Mackenzie, Conservative, Cariboo, and George Heggie, Conservative, North Okanagan, were absent from the House. Hon. R. W. Bruhn is away from the city.

The new bill faces one danger yet. It has to pass the committee stage, where important sections may be again threatened in case of sparse attendance.

THE VOTE

Those in favor of the bill were:

Messrs. McKenzie, Loughheed, Atkinson, Shelly, Cornett, M. Manson, Pooley, Tolmie, Jones, Howe, Maitland, Twigg, Hayward, Gray, Lister, Dick Pearson, King, Uphill, Rutledge, Carson and Loutet.

Against it were: Messrs. Fitzsimmons, Hanna, MacPherson, Gillis, Kingston, Berry, Borden, Kirk, Winch, Kergin, Sutherland, Pattullo, A. M. Manson, Alward, Spencer, Walkem, Macintosh, Michell, MacNaughton, Schofield and Beatty.

H. D. Twigg, Conservative, Victoria, who has on previous occasions championed the cause of the chiropractors, was the central figure in support of the bill brought in by R. Hayward. A. M. Manson was the moving figure in the attack.

TWO HOUR DEBATE

In a two hours' discussion opponents of the bill protested chiropractors had not proved they had qualifications to treat all ailments. Any measure brought forward should provide safeguards to the health of the public by specifying limitations in treatments beyond which chiropractors would not be permitted to go. They claimed chiropractors had not proved they had within their ranks men capable of forming an examining board as the bill gave them a right to do. All medical men in the house opposed the measure.

In support of the bill it was argued the science of chiropractic had made great advances in the last fifteen years. Chiropractic had been practised for twenty years and people still demanded their services. Criticism of their educational standards were hotly resented.

DOCTOR'S VIEW

Dr. Borden, Conservative, Nelson, said he had no quarrel with chiropractors, he was only interested in the public welfare. He advanced arguments along the lines of other medical members of the Legislature on the importance of diagnosis which chiropractors claimed was unnecessary. The responsibility for such legislation would rest upon the shoulders of members of the House if it were passed.

NO INQUIRY ON MERITS

"We should not deal lightly with a matter affecting the lives of the community," said Mr. Manson in opposing the bill.

He repeated criticism advanced earlier in the session against the limited scope of the Murphy Commission on chiropractors and drugless healers. The form of commission forced the commissioner to recognize the practice of chiropractors in the province and precluded him from an examination of the efficacy of chiropractors or its relative merits as compared with the practice of medicine.

Declaring people of the United States were inclined to accept fads more readily than Canadians who prided themselves on their conservatism, Mr. Manson noted all the colleges for chiropractors mentioned in the Murphy report except one was in the United States. Views of medical men who spent years of study at recognized Canadian colleges and chiropractors who attended these United States colleges were diametrically opposed on the cause of disease and methods of treatment.

"ON ALTAR OF POLITICS"

"Are members of this House prepared to give legal recognition to a cult that does not believe in diagnosis? Would they do that because of votes?" asked Mr. Manson. "If they do, they are placing the lives of their children on the altar of politics."

Mr. Manson saw another danger in the possible spread of contagious disease through a man unskilled in diagnosis failing to detect it when called in to treat a patient. While it could be argued that liberty was refused by failure to recognize chiropractors, liberty, said the speaker, could become license when it endangered the welfare of the community. Another danger he detected was that chiropractors, who themselves had not passed examinations, would conduct the examination of others. Grave doubts were also raised as to whether the proposed examinations offered protection to the public. As chiropractors had refused to sit for examinations called for in legislation now on the statute books, they should not be listened to now, said Mr. Manson, after pointing out training for medical men had been increased to six and seven years.

THOUSANDS WANT THEM

George S. Pearson, Liberal, Nanaimo, supported the measure on the ground that thousands of people were convinced chiropractic had a place in healing but voiced the hope the chiropractic board it was proposed to set up would regulate the profession so its members would not attempt to treat ailments they were not qualified to treat. Lack of organization among doctors in passing on to the public the benefit of medical science was driving people to new cults, the speaker thought, stating he had every respect for members of the profession and was firmly convinced their opposition to the bill was conscientious and not prompted by selfish motives.

W. R. Rutledge, Conservative, Burnaby, supporting the bill, thought the public asking for services of chiropractors were entitled to them.

The courses chiropractors were called upon to take, Mr. Twigg thought, were just as advanced in the study of their profession as those which medical men took. Medical science was changing from hour to hour. It was absurd for medical men to say they knew all about medicine because of a few years spent in studying it. Methods of treatment were continually changing, but medical men, Mr. Twigg claimed, had made no serious study to decide if there were value in chiropractic.

FOR TWENTY YEARS

For twenty years chiropractic had been treated and people were going to chiropractors in increasing numbers. Would they have lasted that long if their services were not beneficial? The science of chiropractic, too, had also made great strides in the last fifteen years.

When the subject of a commission was discussed in the House, Mr. Twigg recalled, he agreed to it on the grounds that chiropractic was a method of treating human ailments that was recognized and within the law. The conceived rights of the medical profession under the Medical Act were fully protected in the bill before the House, which prohibited chiropractors to perform surgery, administer medicine or anaesthetics. They were confined to the treatment of chiropractic.

COMPARES STUDY

It was absurd to say chiropractors were uneducated. They took three or four years' courses, which were not so long as those a doctor took, but provided for as many or more hours to be spent in the study of their particular branch of healing as doctors who took many subjects which were of no use to chiropractors.

People had a perfect right to go to chiropractors if they thought the chiropractors could do them good, said Mr. Twigg in conclusion. Sufficient evidence had been produced to show the people wanted this legislation.

Dr. G. K. MacNaughton, Conservative, Comox, said there had been no evidence to show chiropractors were qualified to treat human ailments.

BEATTY OPPOSES

J. H. Beatty, Conservative, Victoria, also opposed the bill on the qualifications of the chiropractors. He questioned the value of the standard demanded by the chiropractors' colleges, voicing the opinion that every chiropractor attending passed the examinations. None, he thought, failed as other colleges failed students who could not come up to the standard demanded. He had been told he took his political life in his hands if he opposed the bill, but he was unable to support it.

Dr. H. C. Winch, Liberal, Skeena, emphasized the point that Mr. Justice Murphy was not empowered to report on the value or otherwise of chiropractors' services. Chiropractors should be confined to treatment of cases within their limitations.

PREMIER'S VIEWS

The right of chiropractors to practice was already specified in the Medical Act, Premier Tolmie said, in reply to the charge the scope of the commission was limited.

He recalled his early experiences as a veterinary surgeon, when he said a similar situation was faced as was being now discussed. At one time, he said, men without training were practicing as veterinarians and trained men sought legislation to deal with what they classed as "quacks." Through organization the situation had been met and now the profession was confined to properly qualified men.

The Premier gave his personal opinion that he would not call in the services of a chiropractor in case of sickness in his own family. He preferred a medical man. He could not understand or subscribe to a chiropractor's methods. However, chiropractors were permitted to practice in some provinces and people demanded their services. He thought the situation would be met if chiropractors were allowed to practice but plainly "put in their own stalls."

"M.D." AND "C."

"Put up a big 'M.D.' for the doctors and a big 'C.' for the chiropractors," the Premier commented.

T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, opposed the bill on the grounds it permitted no scope for the chiropractors to practice in comparison with their qualifications and did not offer adequate protection to the public.

## MAY BORROW FOR UNEMPLOYMENT

Powers Given to Finance Minister in Taxation Bill Before House

Legislation validating all agreements entered into between the province and the Dominion for unemployment relief and making provision for future relief was introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. J. W. Jones in the Unemployment Relief Bill. Provision has already been made for the Finance Minister to take out what amounts may be necessary on account of unemployment relief from \$7,000,000 in the \$7,500,000 loan bill previously passed. The new legislation gives power to borrow such other sums as may be necessary.

The Provincial Elections Act passed second reading with T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, intimating he would have more to say about it when it was in the committee stage.

The bill amending the Teachers' Pension Act passed the committee stage. It excludes from the provisions of the act teachers who have been away from the profession for a period of ten years, Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe remarking many teachers sought to come back after they had become out of touch with the duties, merely for the purpose of securing a pension. Another clause provides teachers away for a short length of time who returned to the profession must serve five years before they are eligible for pensions.

Amendments to the Taxation Act introduced by Hon. J. W. Jones, Minister of Finance, cancelled sections of the act referring to the Special Revenue Tax for which the new Income Tax is now substituted. It also provided for licensing real estate agents to sell reverted lands. Provision was made for a five mill tax for educational purposes on land outside a school district. Another section dealt with assessments on timber lands and called for notice to be given on land swept by forest fires so it could be assessed as logged over land. Mr. Pattullo adjourned the debate.

## MOTIONS AND BILLS PASS

Progress Made on New Legislation; Oil Royalty Clause Changed

Vancouver Members Want Commission to Study Unemployment

Much of yesterday evening in the Legislature was given up to debate on resolutions.

The House adopted a motion by Col. Nelson Spencer, Conservative, Vancouver, calling upon the Dominion Government to appoint a commission to make a speedy survey of the country's economic position with a view to recommending a resolution of the present depression and unemployment period. A conference of premiers immediately afterwards to agree upon uniform legislation throughout the country giving effect to the policy was recommended.

Colonel Spencer took occasion to advance his own view that the only solution was putting five people to do the work now done by four. The big commercial organizations not competing in foreign markets could be organized to this end without difficulty, he said, if the effort were made.

MORE POPULATION

He also expressed himself as convinced it was a mistake to assume the country had too much population. What was needed, he claimed, was more population to utilize its equipment and resources. Only Dr. J. J. Gillis, Yale, and Reginald Hayward, Victoria, spoke to the motion, since there will be a full debate on the issue when the report of the unemployment committee is tabled.

Several other resolutions moved by Liberal members asking for returns of information about public business were adopted without comment. One asking for a list of rentals paid for Liquor Board premises caused Attorney-General Pooley to say rentals had been reduced. A. M. Manson replied this was because the board had bought and built expensive premises, the interest on which would be greater than the former rents.

PETROLEUM BILL

Only one of the proposed modifications of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Bill was accepted by Hon. N. S. Loughheed, Minister of Lands, when the bill was reconsidered.

He changed the royalty from 12 1/2 cents a barrel to a percentage basis as suggested by T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, although Mr. Pattullo said the amendment did not fully meet his point. The new royalty basis is to be from 5 to 10 per cent of the value of the oil, but Mr. Pattullo said no maximum should be fixed, as this debarred the Legislature from raising it in the public interest if at any time such a course became desirable.

The minister and Colonel Spencer might be deterred from developing British Columbia oil fields.

The other limitations on prospectors or men of small means in the way of time limit and amount of money to be spent on development were not modified and the high rentals remain in the bill, which is now ready for third reading.

## END OF SESSION IS EXPECTED TUESDAY

Unless something unforeseen develops, the B.C. Legislature will prorogue on Tuesday according to present plans. The House will not sit to-morrow and it is expected the order paper will be cleared up at to-day's and Monday's sittings ready for the visit of the Lieutenant-Governor Tuesday. The redistribution bill and the report of the unemployment committee are among the outstanding matters to be given consideration.

## Across The

We pass a solemn conscience experiment we vote as we please—Mr. Pattullo—and we decide

By H.

THURSDAY WAS a tense day in the hon. members were pleased on a major was the old, old is whether chiropractors to set their own exam to undergo medical present. And on the or taxation, more proposals of the b member felt the fu office resting on h ders. It was quite

THIS UNUSUAL House voting ac science rather than almost a full day of summation. Spea sought to swing th that, and close to needed to exhaust highly doubtful the single vote. It is h the verdict would be if the vote had been two instead of a qu the result as it aff this session would same. Alas, no.

WHAT IS worryi now is another an old familiar hu do we go home? A chiropractic are goi noon, our chance of microscopically sma shall need another v ing turned that w week-end, it is diff the straight-away o happy, indeed, was the end of its weary

IT IS CURIOUS I restraint of party, what they like, the assembly improve in such an arrangement sible, you would speaking standard one dares to suggest dard) raised remark all, a man usually views better than l else's.

MR. MANSON sta an excellent ad practors. One felt, was a better address usually delivers on p was a fervent, almo dress. At one point son proclaimed th prayer but not chiropractic mirac other point he t rather rough for chiropractic when he tically whether the sacrifice their child politics; but it w where politics enter ber voting either incur displeasure fr other.

MR. MANSON'S notable for a d faith in the intellig even despite its usu government, an une which may or may shaken by the sub said the House was the general populace average. Mr. Rutled a little below. Well, assert that it was gence, but there se scepticism about it



# Across The Bay

We pass a solemn day—with our conscience exposed to full view—we vote as we please—Mr. Manson is earnest—Mr. Twigg is elegant—the Premier is veterinary—Mr. Pattullo is doubtful—and we decide by one ballot.

By H. B. W.

THURSDAY WAS a solemn, rather tense day in this Legislature, for hon. members were free to vote as they pleased on a major issue. This issue was the old, old issue of chiropractic, whether chiropractors shall be allowed to set their own examinations or forced to undergo medical examinations as at present. And on this issue, more than or taxation, more than on the largest proposals of the budget, the average member felt the full responsibility of office resting on his individual shoulders. It was quite dramatic.

THIS UNUSUAL spectacle of the House voting according to its conscience rather than its caucus required almost a full day to bring it to consummation. Speaker after speaker sought to swing the issue this way or that, and close to three hours were needed to exhaust these efforts. It is highly doubtful that they altered a single vote. It is highly probable that the verdict would have been the same if the vote had been taken at half-past two instead of a quarter-past five. But the result as it affected the future of this session wouldn't have been the same. Alas, no.

WHAT IS worrying this House most now is another matter altogether, an old familiar human matter—when do we go home? And if matters like chiropractic are going to take all afternoon, our chance of going home soon is microscopically small. At this rate we shall need another week, for once having turned that vital corner of the week-end, it is difficult to stop us on the straight-away of the week. Unhappy, indeed, was this Legislature at the end of its weary day.

IT IS CURIOUS how, freed from the restraint of party, and allowed to say what they like, the members of this assembly improve in their speeches. If such an arrangement were always possible, you would certainly find the speaking standard of the House (and one dares to suggest its thinking standard) raised remarkably. Because, after all, a man usually speaks his own views better than he speaks someone else's.

MR. MANSON started the day with an excellent address against chiropractors. One felt, somehow, that it was a better address than Mr. Manson usually delivers on political themes. It was a fervent, almost a prayerful address. At one point, indeed, Mr. Manson proclaimed that he believed in prayer but not in prayers for chiropractic miracles. At another point he tried to make it rather rough for members favoring chiropractic when he demanded dramatically whether they were willing to sacrifice their children on the altar of politics; but it was not clear just where politics entered, since a member voting either way was sure to incur displeasure from one side or the other.

MR. MANSON'S address also was notable for a devout profession of faith in the intelligence of this House, even despite its usual support of this government, an unexpected profession which may or may not have been shaken by the subsequent vote. He said the House was a cross-section of the general populace, a little above the average. Mr. Rutledge thought it was a little below. Well, Mr. Manson would assert that it was of average intelligence, but there seemed to be some scepticism about it. This House, at

this time of the session, feels very low and contrite.

THERE IS a curious usage in this House; not a usage exactly, rather a law of nature, a profound, providential equilibrium. Nature seems to have devised Mr. Manson and Mr. Twigg as a unique and special system of checks and balances, more perfect in its utter reliability than even the man-made system of government and opposition. Whatever view Mr. Manson takes on anything, Mr. Twigg is sure to take the opposite. And if Mr. Twigg finds merit in any proposal Mr. Manson is sure to suspect it of undermining the state. There is no personal spleen in this strange conflict, no opposing for opposition's sake. It is a perfect provision evidently decreed by the gods of politics to make sure that nothing slips through this House undisturbed.

AS CERTAINLY, then, as destiny, Mr. Twigg championed the chiropractors as Mr. Manson had championed the medical doctors. He did it very well with that elegant nineteenth-century air which makes you think of Gladstone, Disraeli and reform bills. Mr. Twigg was elegant and cogent, but probably he didn't realize any more than Mr. Manson how close a fight he was leading.

DR. McNAUGHTON opposed the chiropractors with all the other medical doctors, and so did Mr. Beatty and Dr. Wrinch. Their argument, now familiar to all, was that the Chiropractors Bill would leave the public with inadequate protection against quacks.

AT LAST we got the government's view—not the official view, you understand, since this was a non-party bill with everyone free to vote as he liked. But it was the government's view nevertheless, however well it might be bundled up in pleasantness. It was the government's view as distinguished from the view of the government's supporters.

IT CAME, of course, from the Premier. The Premier had arrived with a neat little speech which seemed to sum up the whole issue, from his standpoint, much more concisely, much more effectively than many of the more ambitious utterances. Also, it was decorated with a few harmless barnyard references, which made everyone, even the doctors, feel better. For instance, if you were a veterinary like the Premier, you couldn't put a 2,000-lb bull to bed if it got sick, and animals generally, unlike humans, disliked talking about their ailments. Anyway, the Premier was prepared to apply to this problem the same horse sense which he had applied to others—he would put the chiropractors in a separate box stall by themselves and the doctors in another, he would brand the chiropractors with a big "C" and the doctors with a big "M.D." and then let the wisdom of the public be its guide.

MR. PATTULLO'S language was different and so was his conclusion. He spoke of "presumptive evidence," the protection of the public and the duties of Parliament. He would oppose the bill. The division bells rang. A twelve-year fight was nearing its end. For the first time this session the House didn't know how a vote would turn out and it felt rather tense. Mr. Twigg swung in his chair with an air of carelessness which he probably didn't feel. Finally, after twelve years, the House voted for chiropractors by 21 votes to 21, and so evenly was it divided that no one could tell the outcome until the clerk read the fateful figures. The doctors made one last desperate effort, they asked for a recount. But the result was the same. The House, its conscience vindicated, a great load off its mind, went home for dinner and prepared to vote in future according to the more usual practice of British Parliaments.

## MORTGAGE BILL LIMITS SCORED

### Plan For Moratorium Is Made Subject to Appeal to Courts

### Failure to Provide For Moratorium on Interest Criticized

The promised mortgage moratorium bill introduced by Attorney-General Pooley in the Legislature was closely examined by many interested persons this morning with indications that its limited scope will produce many objections from some quarters.

The bill provides that where interest and taxes on a mortgaged property have been paid the lender may not institute the ordinary foreclosure proceedings arising from default of principal payments without applying to the courts. It provides that where the mortgage is \$3,000 or less the court costs for the preliminary application shall be limited to \$25. The bill deals with principal only and application for a moratorium is subject to interest and taxes being fully paid up.

#### OBJECTIONS

Objections to the bill are voiced by J. B. Williams, city solicitor, Vancouver, on the grounds that it gives no relief on mortgage interest payments. He is pressing to secure a complete moratorium both on principal and interest. As court action is allowed, he claims complete moratorium is not even given on principal. Pressing for a moratorium on interest he claims this is the greatest need of householders. In Vancouver, he says, many small householders are receiving city relief and are unable to pay interest on mortgages.

#### NO RELIEF FOR MANY

"The act," said Mr. Williams, "makes it necessary for a mortgagee to obtain special leave of the court before commencing any foreclosure proceedings and this only applies to such cases where interest and taxes are not in arrears. If interest or taxes are in arrears the ordinary court procedure still applies. This, in effect, means that where any interest is owing or taxes are unpaid, the mortgagor receives no relief whatever. This bill specifically does not apply to interest payments in any form."

Numerically, the small householder forms about 85 per cent of the mortgagors and it is the small householder owning his own home who is in the greatest need of relief. He is therefore subject to foreclosure if he owes any payment whatever other than on principal. In Vancouver, for instance, there are some 700 property owners obtaining relief who are unable to pay mortgage interest or taxes, and these people will not benefit by the moratorium act.

#### ON AMORTIZED BASIS

A great number of the mortgages are payable on an amortized basis, that is to say, monthly payments include principal and interest. One payment in arrears on such agreements removes the householder from the provisions of the act and he is subject to foreclosure, despite the act.

Hundreds of land owners, particularly agriculturists, are in a financial position to-day where they can neither pay principal nor interest and can barely find enough to maintain an existence. Are these people to be wiped out simply because they are unfortunate enough to be unable to meet his interest and tax charges?

#### WAR-TIME EXPERIENCE

"Experience with the wartime moratorium in this province demanded the inclusion of interest within the moratorium provision, and in 1916, the Legislature amended the act to include interest. The situation to-day is more serious than in 1915 because to-day the agriculturist is unable to dispose of any of his commodities profitably, whereas in the war, agricultural prices were high and the market for such products was strong. The results of the former moratorium, I am reliably informed, permitted the mortgagors to readjust themselves financially and eventually to complete their contracts, to the extent of about 75 per cent of outstanding contracts."

"My contention is that the equities of the case should be left in the discretion of the courts as they were during the war, so that the facts on both sides can be dispassionately weighed and such orders made as the circumstances and adequate protection given to both mortgagor and mortgagee. This arrangement would preserve all the legal rights of both parties, removes the necessity for expensive litigation and practically ensures to the mortgagee a completion of the contract, besides giving to the harassed mortgagor time in which to readjust himself financially."

"Another objection to this legislation and a very grave one is that it does not, as reported, grant a complete moratorium even on principal, since the mortgagee is allowed to apply to the courts for leave to foreclose even though interest and taxes are paid. The act does not lay down any principle to guide the court in these circumstances and therefore there is no absolute protection for any mortgagor in regard to the payment of principal and he is still subject to the cost of court proceedings to protect his equity in his property. It is the small land holder who is the most distressed to-day, and he is the man who should be protected by any moratorium. This legislation does not provide that protection."

## THE FISHERMEN'S STRIKE

To the Editor:—It was with feelings of the utmost disgust that I read how Mr. Howe, Commissioner of Fisheries, attacked our two members, Mr. Hanna and Mr. Neill, in connection with the fishermen's strike at Port Alberni last Fall.

I have looked all through the dictionary and I cannot find any words harsh enough to describe the assertions of Mr. Howe, our unknown commissioner of fisheries. I have discussed this matter with the leading fishermen here who bitterly resent his unprovoked attack on two of the fishermen's staunchest friends. Mr. Howe claims that Mr. Hanna and Mr. Neill fomented the strike. That is untrue.

The fishermen refused to fish dog salmon for five cents a piece for the Japanese monopoly. They came to town in a body and held meetings conducted by themselves.

They asked Mr. Neill and Mr. Hanna to attend their meetings and advise them. Mr. Howe might take notice here that the fishermen turned to their friends, tested and tried, not to the unknown commissioner of fisheries.

At no time in the meetings had Mr. Hanna or Mr. Neill a vote, and their attitude was one of friendly endeavor towards arbitration. This was finally adopted.

Mr. Howe credits his government with settling the strike. He should be ashamed of helping such a shameful settlement; he and the Dominion authorities who opened the Alberni Canal to seine boats!

If the lowering of the seine boat licenses, and the opening of the canal are examples of how strikes are settled, so that Canadians have to fish for seven cents a fish for a foreign monopoly it will certainly stand out as a great lesson in conservation to the fishermen which they will no doubt remember at the next polls.

If Mr. Howe does not believe that the dog salmon fishing is in the hands of the Japanese he is grossly ignorant of conditions and has no business posing as commissioner of fisheries. For his elucidation every dog salmon is put up by Japanese labor entirely.

Sixty per cent of the lumber for the boxes is cut by Japanese labor at their own mills. The salt is brought from the U.S., the nails from Japan and the U.S. The fish is shipped in Japanese bottoms, and outside of the little bit of longshoring to load it, and the mere seven cents (granted to the fishermen by Mr. Howe's magnanimity), that is the total share that Canada and the province of British Columbia get from the bounteous gifts in their waters.

Mr. Howe has been four years in office and I will make him a bet that there is not one fisherman in a hundred who knows him personally. In fact if you mention Mr. Howe they want to know who you are talking about. Outside of politics, Mr. Hanna and Mr. Neill have thousands of personal friends among the fishermen, and it ill behooves an unknown commissioner of fisheries to decry the work of our two fine members when he should have been doing the work that they were doing.

I would like to sign my name to this letter, but as I am a family man and want to work at my business of fishing this year, I will have to be content to sign myself,

FISHERMAN.  
Port Alberni, B.C., April 3, 1932.



# Police Board Ends Work Tuesday

## Bill Before House Now Provides New Form of Commission

Chicago Methods Have Created Intolerable Condition, Says Attorney-General

NO CHOICE ON CHANGE GIVEN FOR VICTORIA

Council Should Be Given Chance to Seek Change, Says Opposition Leader

By Tuesday the present Victoria Police Commission will be abolished and in its place will be established a board of Mayor Leeming, chairman; Judge P. S. Lampman, or Judge J. C. McIntosh and Magistrate George Jay, under the plan introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Attorney-General Pooley.

[This was the outcome of the alleged interference by police commissioners with the execution of a search warrant issued by Magistrate Jay on the premises of the Victoria Hospitals Club.

Attorney-General Pooley told the House he had been informed this was not the first case of interference. The condition in Victoria was intolerable. Chicago methods would not be tolerated, he declared.

**ACT AMENDED**  
The amendment to the Municipal Act which the Attorney-General introduced following Magistrate Jay's complaint, calls for a change to the Ontario system. Under this system a mayor or reeve, a county court judge and a magistrate comprise the police board.

As far as Victoria is concerned the new legislation goes as far as it could yesterday. The city will have no choice about the change, and it will go into effect as soon as the Lieutenant-Governor assents to the bill. This, it is expected, will be done when he assents to other bills when the Legislature prorogues Tuesday. As far as other municipalities are concerned a petition from the council is called for before the change is made.

Telling the Legislature "Chicago methods" could not be tolerated in British Columbia, Mr. Pooley introduced the amendment yesterday afternoon.

**NO RIGHT TO INTERFERE**  
In introducing the amendment at the afternoon session Mr. Pooley told the House the search warrant was issued by Magistrate Jay Saturday on the information of a police officer. Mr. Pooley was informed that after it was issued two police commissioners intervened and instructed the police not to carry out the warrant, in short to disobey.

"I am not sure they knew just how far they were going," commented Mr. Pooley. "There are sections of the Criminal Code that cover that sort of thing. They had no right to interfere with the administration of justice. In that regard a police commissioner is the same as any other individual."

Mr. Pooley said he was advised that it was not the first time such a thing had happened.

"I am advised," he said, "that on one other occasion the present chief of police of Victoria was notified in a private house that he would have the shirt taken off his back as the shirt was taken off the man before him."

"This sort of thing cannot be tolerated in British Columbia. It is coming to something to have Chicago methods initiated here."

Mr. Pooley explained the amendment calling for the abolition of the elected police commission system and the appointment of a commission of a mayor or reeve, a judge of the county court and a police magistrate. Provision is made for the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council to name a man for the board if one of those positions is vacant. The council may pay a reasonable remuneration to a judge and magistrate for serving as a member of the commission.

The Attorney-General explained the amendment provided for this system to be permissible in all municipalities and would be put into effect on petition from a council when the old rule of police commissioners would cease to apply and the new method introduced.

**APPLIES AT ONCE HERE**  
"But," said the Attorney-General with emphasis, "the amendment provides that as far as Victoria is concerned it shall apply at once."

Mr. Pooley said he had received information from Magistrate Jay the position in Victoria was intolerable and the magistrate asked the constitution be changed to protect the administration of justice. From information he secured after getting the official complaint from Magistrate Jay, Mr. Pooley said he learned the search warrant was issued. But under duress and threats the chief of police did not carry out the warrant. In this connection Mr. Pooley absolved Mayor Leeming from all blame.

**REFLECTION ON CITY**  
"I put the provincial police at the disposal of the city, and it was found the condition suspected existed and the police got ample evidence," Mr. Pooley said.

Mr. Pattullo sympathized with Mr. Pooley's stand. The administration of justice must be preserved if the facts were as alleged. He understood, however, that one commissioner had denied participation. He pointed out drastic legislation was proposed to be put on the statute books because an elected body was allegedly derelict in its duty. He questioned, however, whether the Attorney-General should use the bludgeon as a method of correction. It seemed a terrible reflection on the electors of Victoria, and he questioned whether it would not be better to make the change subject to a petition from the Victoria City Council.

**CHIROPRACTORS**  
To the Editor:—In view of the present discussion re above, I feel compelled to state briefly the facts of my own case and trust you will be able to find room for same in your valuable paper.

About a year ago I was afflicted with a form of creeping or progressive paralysis, which eventually totally incapacitated me from work of any kind; held me so helpless that I was unable even to adjust buttons on my clothes and could only walk with difficulty, my hands, feet and face being most affected.

I consulted our family physician, who diagnosed my case as stomach trouble and prescribed for me. I was under his care for a month and faithfully followed his instructions, but gradually became worse and more helpless.

My wife persuaded me to try a chiropractor, who put me through numerous tests occupying a week's time before he would venture an opinion, he then stated he believed he could help me.

From the commencement of the treatment I sensed an improvement, slow, gradual, but continued. Within a month my hands and feet were almost normal, and in three months I was back at work, and so far there is no sign of any return of the affliction and I am enjoying perfect health.

These are indisputable facts of my own case.

A READER.

## HOUSE DEBATES EMPIRE BUYING

Premier Optimistic Over Economic Conference at Ottawa in July

Resolution Invites Delegates to Pay Visit to British Columbia

After Premier Tolmie had spoken with considerable enthusiasm in favor of an empire buying policy the Legislature yesterday approved of a resolution in his name on the order papers expressing satisfaction that the Imperial Conference was being held in Ottawa this summer. A cordial invitation to the delegates to visit British Columbia before proceeding to Ottawa in July was coupled with the resolution.

Attorney-General Pooley seconded the motion, which was supported by T. D. Pattullo, Leader of the Opposition; Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., Minister without portfolio; Dr. J. J. Gillis, Liberal, Yale, and Capt. James Fitzsimmons, Conservative, Kaslo-Slocan.

Thomas Uphill, Labor, Fernie, doubted the sincerity of the conference. He feared it might be an attempt to hoodwink the public instead of facing the real problem of the world at the present time.

A. M. Manson, K.C., Liberal, Omineca, after some time had been spent on the resolution, said he always thought it was better to bind the empire in bonds of love than bonds of steel and suggest the Legislature get on with the business of British Columbia.

**GREAT OPPORTUNITY**  
Premier Tolmie, in moving the resolution, thought the conference offered a wonderful opportunity to build up trade within the empire to the advantage of every part of the empire. A tremendous "buy British" sentiment had been created in the United Kingdom and the various Dominions had been pressing for definition of a real empire policy. The unbalanced trade with foreign countries was draining away the wealth of the empire. Trade which was now directed to foreign channels would be developed into British channels. Essential the empire could be made self-contained as was the United States empire to-day. The organization of the empire into a unified vast business concern held out tremendous possibilities and was definitely headed somewhere.

"If the empire is worth while, and all will admit this and are proud of it," said the Premier, "let us do something to perpetuate it. Why not develop the opportunities within the empire first before running far afield in search of new markets?"

**"UP AND DOING"**  
Attorney-General Pooley thought it was time the empire was up and doing. The Old Country had been the dumping ground of the world too long in a large measure to the detriment of the colonies and Dominions. It was gratifying to see the Dominions taking the matter in hand. He told the House a suit of clothes made in Russia could be bought in England for \$2.50, after freight and been paid. He questioned what the farmer got for his wool, and the weaver and tailor for their work on the suit. It was high time, he claimed, walls were put up to protect the people of England from the cheap labor conditions that must have prevailed in the country of origin of such a suit of clothes to turn it out at that price.

Mr. Pattullo wished the conference every success, and felt sure good would come of it. No nation, however, within the empire could live within the empire alone. The empire must think internationally, always protecting itself but always ready to help other nations he said, decriing narrow "Anglophilia." He believed good would come out of the conference, and remarked the stronger the British Empire was the more it could do for the rest of the world, and the greater its responsibility was to the rest of the world.

### TRIBUTES

Dr. Gillis, in supporting the resolution, paid a tribute to efforts of F. B. Hurd, Agent-General in London, and Thomas Coventry, Markets Commissioner in London, for efforts to help market Canadian furs there.

People did not bother where goods were bought, Mr. Uphill claimed, referring to Mr. Pooley's comments about the cheap Russian suit of clothes. A lot of equally cheap stuff was turned out in the Orient at plants run by English, Canadian and U.S. capitalists, who placed their factories there because labor was cheap. "If you put up a barrier to shut things out they send them to another country and beat you to the market there, so that does not help," he said. If there were any sincerity in the policy he asked why the British Columbia Government did not put a tax on crude oil from the United States, which would be high enough to bring back the use of coal and put thousands of B.C. miners back to work?

Mr. Maitland regretted the note of discord. They should look to the conference with anticipation of success which would help to restore that confidence which was necessary to bring back better times.

## MRS. NORTH'S EXPLANATION

Commissioners Were Asked to Rule on Hospitals Club Plan, She Says

Attorney-General Should "Mind His Own Business," She Declares

As far as the Victoria Police Commission is concerned, Attorney-General Pooley should mind his own business, Police Commissioner Margaret Dorothy North declared in a statement to The Times to-day.

Mrs. North denied the allegation about "Chicago methods" being used in Victoria. It was common knowledge that Victoria's police force was more efficient and more smoothly operated now than for years, she said.

Her statement follows: "I was very much surprised to learn of the action of Magistrate Jay and of the assertions that conditions are intolerable in Victoria. As far as Mr. Pooley is concerned I think he should mind his own business."

"We have done our best at all times and if we have made one small mistake, it might be overlooked. The most intelligent people make mistakes."

### CONTRADICTION, SHE SAYS

"It seems rather a contradiction after we have been told that the police department was running along smoothly and efficiently, and then we are suddenly informed 'Chicago Methods' are being used in Victoria."

"As far as the Victoria Hospitals Club is concerned, the gathering last Saturday morning was not really a meeting of the Police Board. Mr. Williams asked Mr. North to talk the thing over and we did so. After talking it over we decided to wait until we got legal opinion upon it before any action was taken."

"In regard to the proposed change in the police commission, all I can say is that if Mr. Pooley thinks anyone else can do better it is quite all right with me."

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McGEOUGH AND NAPIER

**TWO CASES WITH WHICH THE TOL-**  
mie government has been associated will stick to it too long for its political comfort—the case of McGeough and the case of Napier. By this time the public is thoroughly familiar with the details and is not likely soon to forget them.

It will be remembered that when Mr. M. H. McGeough was called to testify before the Legislature's committee on unemployment in his capacity as Dominion government officer in charge of relief in this province he uncovered a narrative of the dealings between the authorities at Victoria and Ottawa which by no means revealed the British Columbia officials in a favorable light. Having called Mr. McGeough, however, the government members were compelled to listen to what the Dominion officer had to say; but he said so much that was to the point that the government went into a huddle with itself—or its representatives on the unemployment committee—and decided that he already had spilled altogether too many beans for its peace of mind, and that he be not permitted to put in another appearance. He had not told the story the government expected.

With Mr. McGeough out of the way, by means of a resolution debaring him from further participation in the doings of the committee, the time apparently was ripe to dig into his personal affairs. It was discovered and broadcast that Mr. McGeough at one time was holding down a job under the provincial Department of Industries—which involved his presence in an inoperative plant owned by the government in order to keep the insurance on it in force—and a minor job for the Canadian Pacific Railway Company at the same time; but he dropped both jobs, of course, when he received his appointment from Ottawa. The temptation to serve up this tit-bit to the public proved too strong for the government. It was garnished with innuendoes which were intended to give it all the appearance, to drop the metaphor, of some major crime. But when Mr. McGeough asked for permission for British fair play, to appear and refute the attacks which had been made upon him personally, not even Mr. Pooley—who never tires of telling his critics they should play "cricket"—interceded in his behalf. The public nevertheless will draw its own conclusions, since Mr. McGeough is considered a satisfactory person to represent the Dominion in British Columbia on a matter of major concern—comments of British Columbia Conservative members of the Legislature notwithstanding.

In the case of Colonel Ross Napier, Mr. Pattullo was refused permission in the Legislature to reopen the Provincial Secretary's estimates in order that an opportunity might be furnished him to read a letter from Colonel Napier in which the latter complained that Hon. S. L. Howe had not correctly stated the circumstances of his retirement from the civil service of this province. This part of Colonel Napier's statement, already made public, summarizes the complaint:

Had the minister stated the truth, as he once admitted to me, that I had to be sacrificed so that a political appointment might be made from outside the civil service one might at least have had some respect for him as a supporter of the patronage system. But the statements made by him are on a par with all other actions in connection with the matter.

More than two and a half years ago Colonel Napier, then government agent at Vernon, was transferred to Victoria to conduct a thorough investigation into the civil service, and recommend such measures as were necessary to its effective reorganization. For that purpose he was appointed departmental commissioner. During his investigation he submitted numerous reports to the government. In 1930, he said in a statement to the press last September, he was informed that he was to be appointed civil service commissioner, apparently to assist in carrying out some of the recommendations he had made. The actual appointment in his case, however, not only was not made, but the Victoria Conservative Association was requested to nominate a civil service commissioner, which it naturally did with alacrity, and Colonel Napier was astonished to learn from that nominee—not from the government—that he was about to be superseded. As a sort of consolation prize, the colonel was offered his former post of government agent at Vernon, which, of course, was on a subordinate scale in comparison with the position in which he had been acting for two years. He refused the offer, completed his report, and then ceased to be connected with the public service.

Mr. Howe stated in the House the other day that Colonel Napier immediately had been offered his former post as government agent at Vernon "because he was not needed to continue his work as commissioner." Colonel Napier still maintains that he was told he was to be appointed civil service commissioner, that he learned his job had been taken from under him when Mr. Roger Montieth, the Victoria Conservative Association's nominee for the post, informed him he was about to take over his duties.

TRADE EXTENSION

To the editor:—With reference to the payment of Mr. H. Hastings of \$1,000 by the B.C. government for services in connection with a trip he made to the West Indies and which was the subject of much comment in the Legislature, I note that the payment was vigorously defended by Hon. Mr. Maitland and Hon. Mr. McKenzie, who both extolled the value of establishing trade inter-empire and otherwise. It seems hard to understand that these two gentlemen can come forward with oratorical generalizations, in themselves showing a certain amount of knowledge of trade and commerce, and yet be indifferent to the prosecution of a policy which in the end can be the only one to solve the greater amount of the unemployment situation. Apparently when it is not a question of defending the government their interest in trade matters lapses, I say this because I have never seen anything in this regard put forward publicly by either one. True enough, we have a trades extension committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Loughheed, which seems to exist for the lumber trade only and beyond sending one man to Australia and one to the United Kingdom in this connection has not extended its activities further.

It is difficult to comprehend the mentality of officialdom which will put out sums of money for trade information, for surveys, etc., to people whose actual qualifications for such is, to say the least, questionable, and in some cases of no value whatever. I have in mind the payment to Mr. Pineo of, I think, \$5,000 for a

transportation survey by the city of Victoria, and the payment of moneys to formed Alderman Todd. I am not questioning the ability of Mr. Hastings, but it is surprising that the government and the corporation will pass up native sons with war records with a proved capacity for activities which would mean the benefit of the whole people of our province, in favor of outsiders and others of questionable capabilities or for political expediency.

The writer had an interview with Mr. Loughheed some three months ago and for about two hours discussed with that gentleman matters pertaining to trade extension. During the interview Mr. Loughheed several times exclaimed that the writer had "hit the nail right on the head." However, on calling back some two weeks later to discuss the question of how Hon. Mr. Stevens, Federal Minister of Trade and Commerce, could be approached with the idea of placing a man specially equipped with information samples from B.C., etc., on the trade ship which toured the West Indies in January last, the minister could not apparently take time enough to entertain the matter, and did not know or apparently care that a federal trade ship was going to tour the West Indies. The writer arrived with statistics showing the trade done the previous year in all that could affect British Columbia, and could not even show or quote them. Compare this with the \$1,000 paid Mr. Hastings and the defence of same made by Hon. Mr. Maitland and Hon. Mr. McKenzie. Many opportunities exist in our present trade relations, and there is a wonderful field for development. However, if there is not some concerted and regulated action, control of our industries will pass out of our hands into that of foreigners, such as the Japanese in the herring industry.

April 6, 1932.

CANADIAN.

**SAYS BILL NOT WIDE ENOUGH**

**Vancouver Mayor Makes Representations on Moratorium Measures Before M.P.P.'s**

Canadian Press

Vancouver, April 8.—Despite the fact that the Vancouver council endorsed the principle of the mortgage moratorium bill introduced in the Legislature by Attorney-General Pooley, Mayor Louis D. Taylor to-day expressed his opposition to the measure on the ground that "it does not afford protection to the man who needs it most."

The moratorium should be extended to cover interest and taxes, declared the mayor and, on his instructions, City Solicitor J. B. Williams, now in Victoria, has made representations along that line.

The council some time ago approved the moratorium proposal as introduced by Mr. Pooley, and just last Wednesday repeated its endorsement, ignoring arguments of Ald. L. D. McDonald and the mayor that no protection would be afforded to relief dependents who could not pay interest and taxes. The mayor was asked to communicate the council's decision to Mr. Williams.

Reminded his plans were contrary to those of the council, the mayor this morning insisted the moratorium should permit deferment of payment on interest and taxes.

TAKES CHANCE

"Mr. Williams is acting on my instructions," he said, "and I back up his arguments in this regard. He can represent the mayor of Vancouver—it is not the first time he has done it. And if I do not represent the city council, I shall soon hear from it, but I will take a chance."

"This proposed act does not protect relief men who can not find a day's work to pay interest or taxes. What is to be done by the poor men who cannot find a thing to do? They should be protected just as much as the man who is able to find enough money to cover his taxes and interest."

The mayor declared it would be preferable for the city to wait for payment of its taxes in a few instances for the year of the moratorium rather than that the people should lose their homes. He added that, in any event, such people might go into arrears for three years before their property was sold.

**CRIMINAL CODE MOTION FAILS**

**Uphill Resolution Is Matter For Federal Government, Legislature Rules**

Attorney-General Pooley and T. D. Pattullo found themselves in agreement in the Legislature yesterday evening on the proposition that the provincial house has enough to attend to without discussing federal matters.

Tom Uphill's motion asking the Dominion Parliament to eliminate Section 98 from the Criminal Code was accordingly defeated by 33 to 10. Most of the Liberal members voted with Mr. Uphill, but Mr. Pattullo and Dr. H. C. Wrinch joined the majority in voting against the motion.

Mr. Pattullo explained that he was not passing upon the merits of the question, but considered it was out of place to bring the issue before the Legislature.

Mr. Uphill stated that the section he objected to was the "unlawful assembly" clauses put in during the war. The House of Commons had five times voted to repeal it, but the Senate had vetoed the bill.

A. M. Manson expressed his sympathy with the resolution, but thought it was a lot of nonsense for a provincial Legislature to deal with federal matters.



## CALLS POLICE BOARD SESSION

McGavin Announces Meeting; Mayor Not Notified Yet

Public Meeting Planned on Hospitals Club; Case Up To-morrow

Police Commissioners Andrew McGavin and Margaret Dorethy North to-morrow morning will attend what may be their last meeting in the official role of commissioners.

Commissioner McGavin announced this morning a meeting of the board would be held and intimated he would make a statement regarding the controversy arising out of the commission's position regarding the Victoria Hospitals Club and subsequent action by the magistrate and Attorney-General.

Whether or not Mayor Leeming will be present is uncertain. The Mayor said this morning he had no notification of a meeting and knew nothing about it.

Meanwhile, in another direction, was a promise that the affairs of the hospitals club would be brought to public attention. Officials of the club announced that preparations were under way for a mass public meeting at which some of the best known lawyers in the city would discuss the legality of club having drawings under the direction of the members.

Summons was served on James I. Davidson, manager of the Victoria Hospitals Club, yesterday as a result of the raid conducted by a provincial police squad Wednesday afternoon on the club headquarters.

He will appear before Magistrate George Jay to-morrow morning, and it is expected a date will then be set for the hearing.

The charge is laid under section 236 of the Criminal Code, which relates to sweepstakes and drawings.

## Even Newsboys Must Pay Tax

"Going Too Far," Says Pattullo When New Income Tax Passes Second Reading in Legislature.

The new income tax which reaches out to every citizen of British Columbia passed second reading with brief debate in the Legislature yesterday.

"It is because of the improvident course this government has taken that such drastic legislation is necessary," T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, remarked.

"Hokey," interrupted Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe.

Mr. Pattullo objected to the universality of the tax.

"Everyone pays," he remarked.

"There was some little waver in the Special Revenue Tax. There is none in this. None whatever. Even the little merchant princes, the newsboys who are little business men, have got to pay income tax. It seems it is going too far."

Second reading was given on a straight party division. Attorney-General Footley, E. C. Carson, R. Mackenzie, William Dick and J. W. Berry, Conservative members, were absent when the vote was taken.

## BORROWING FOR RELIEF IS DECLARED UNSOUND

Should Be Raised By Taxes Every Year, Says Nanaimo Member

Legislature Called Upon to Give Blank Cheque, Says A. M. Manson

Borrowing on long terms for the relief of unemployment was classed as unsound by George S. Pearson, Liberal, Nanaimo, when the Unemployment Relief Bill, giving what A. M. Manson said was tantamount to a blank cheque to the government, was given second reading in the Legislature yesterday.

Pointing to the cost of long term borrowing, Mr. Pearson claimed that over a thirty-year period it meant \$2,500,000 was paid for every million borrowed. When one compared the amount it cost with the amount that went to the pockets of those in need it proved no progress had been made in solving unemployment. Money for the relief of unemployment should be raised by taxes every year. It was the only justification for a tax on small incomes. There would be five periods like the present before the money borrowed to-day was paid back.

### UNDER DOMINION CONTROL

T. D. Pattullo took the position that the practice of borrowing from the Dominion tended to sacrifice the sovereignty of the Provincial Legislature and government, and to bring the province under the control of the Dominion.

Mr. Manson contended that the handling of unemployment was not a project for which the government should borrow at all. The people should pay for each year's unemployment relief out of that year's revenue. Mr. Pearson insisted emphatically.

In moving the second reading Hon. J. W. Jones, Minister of Finance, made a mere formal statement that it validated the Dominion - provincial agreement of August 19, 1931, and the borrowings made thereunder by both the province and the municipalities. The bill also empowered the government and the municipalities to make similar borrowings in future for the same purpose.

### NOT SATISFIED

"What has been done must be validated," said Mr. Pattullo, "but that does not mean we are satisfied with the way the government handled the problem."

In view of the failure of the Dominion Government to lay down a specific programme for the coming year, Mr. Pattullo said he would not oppose the blank cheque feature of the bill for future operations, but he considered both governments should have formulated their plans in advance.

"It is not a happy situation that Ottawa has to lend all this money," he said. "It leads to central control. Ottawa will want to control provincial affairs and the province will become subservient to the Dominion, which is not a healthy condition."

"The province must be untrammelled," he said. "We have the wealth and the resources to stand on our own feet. I deprecate strongly this increasing dependence on the Dominion to finance this province. If our finances had been well conducted in the past two or three years we should not have to go to Ottawa to borrow."

Hon. R. L. Maitland said it was necessary to get money from Ottawa because of the present financial situation, but he complimented Mr. Pattullo on taking advantage of the situation to inflame the public mind. He thought, however, Mr. Pattullo should have given credit for the required budget brought in to end the financial difficulties.

### DEFICITS

Mr. Manson said the borrowings from the Dominion were rendered necessary by the enormous deficits which had closed the ordinary market to the Finance Minister. He calculated the deficits for last year, this year and next year at close to \$20,000,000, with which total, however, Mr. Jones sharply disagreed.

Mr. Manson insisted it was wrong to borrow for unemployment relief. The outlay was a current expenditure which should have been provided for in the budget. The power to borrow to an unlimited extent was also denounced as it gave the government power to raid the treasury, "as has been done." Parliament's right to control expenditure had been won by bloodshed, he recalled.

He hoped, however, that Mr. Jones would get a better interest rate from Ottawa than he was compelled to pay by certain banks and brokers who had made the minister do what they wished with reference to the last loan at 6.77 per cent.

### COULD SPEND \$200,000,000

Hon. W. A. McKenzie said the objection to a fixed amount was that people would insist upon the total being spent. If the government had yielded to pressure it could have spent \$200,000,000 last year, he stated.

Tom Uphill said the solution was for the state to take back the natural resources which had been allotted to wealthy corporations for profit because they had political pull. He also urged that whatever relief scheme was adopted should be uniform throughout the province, which had not been the case last year.

## NO CHANGE ON PENSION PLAN

Finance Minister Will Bill Cities For Half Social Service Costs

Investigation to Prevent Abuse of Mothers' Pensions Planned

The Vancouver-Victoria scheme to modify the effect of Hon. J. W. Jones's budgetary proposal to charge mothers' pensions and social service costs against the municipalities has been rejected.

Hon. S. L. Howe yesterday tabled the two bills imposing half the cost of mothers' pensions and certain fixed charges for occupants of provincial institutions upon the municipalities of their origin, and the measures were found to follow the original budget scheme. The minister explained the bills on second reading and debate was adjourned by T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader.

### ON DOMICILE

In the case of mothers' pensions, Mr. Howe said that since the municipalities were to pay half the cost for pensioners domiciled in their boundaries, they should have a say in administration.

This had been arranged by requiring that original applications must be made to the municipal officials who are required to investigate and pass the application on to the government's superintendent of welfare with their recommendation.

Domicile is to be determined by the original domicile of the applicant, and in case of dispute the Inspector of Municipalities is to arbitrate.

### ABUSES ALLEGED

The minister stated that as a result of the Charlotte Whitten investigation many abuses had been uncovered, and it was now proposed to go into every case and put an end to such abuses. But where the pensioner was entitled to benefit there would be no reduction in amount, he stated.

Small municipalities whose total revenue is less than \$5,000 will not be required to pay for pensioners in their territory.

### WILL BE BILLED

The municipalities are to pay the amounts due on receipt of a bill from the Minister of Finance. Power is given to pay out of the general revenue of the municipality or out of a special levy on land or improvements imposed for this purpose.

## MAY TRANSFER BOARD HERE

H. D. Twigg Expected to Quit Politics to Direct Workmen's Compensation

Complete Reorganization With One-man Control Is Indicated



H. D. TWIGG, M.P.P.

Political circles were enlivened to-day with the prospects that the Workmen's Compensation Board headquarters and staff would be moved to Victoria from Vancouver and centralized under the provincial treasury if H. D. Twigg, M.P.P., one of the four Victoria members, retired from the Legislature and active politics to become the new chairman of the board, succeeding E. S. H. Winn, who is retiring because of ill-health.

Reports from those close to official sources to-day indicated that Mr. Twigg was favored for the post. He is known as one of the outstanding and most able members of the House, has had full legal training and is experienced in business and finance. He serves as Deputy Speaker of the Legislature.

It was indicated to-day that a complete reorganization of the board, necessitated as a result of financial complications and depression conditions, would be carried out by Mr. Twigg, and that, in his move to bring about a closer association of the board with the treasury here, he has the support of the business interests of the province.

It is also probable under Mr. Twigg that the Manitoba system would be introduced here, with a permanent full-time chairman of the board and two associates, one representing employers and the other employees. This board would hold sittings as required.

Labor as well as industrial interests have been sounded out on the Twigg appointment, and it is understood the reaction is favorable to him.

## OLD FUEL OIL BILL REVIVED

Government Using Act Put Through By Shelly in 1930

Presentation of the fuel oil tax bill to the Legislature yesterday evening disclosed that the government intends to use the 1930 act put through by Hon. W. C. Shelly, but never proclaimed.

The new bill simply makes minor amendments to the 1930 act. Persons sued for tax are required to prove how much oil they used and the tax is made alternative to the special railway tax in the case of railways. If the fuel oil tax is greater than the railway tax the latter will not be collected.

Where logging engines are required to use oil to protect forests from fire the tax will not apply.

# McGAVIN INTIMATES

## FIGHT ON OUST MOVE

### "Not Finished Yet" He Says Following Final Meeting of Commission

**Repeats Denial of Interference Charge and Alleges "Fascist Methods" Used; Commissioners Unable to Defend Selves, He Says**

#### NO ACTION TAKEN AT TO-DAY'S SESSION

**Mrs. North Does Not Regret Leaving Office But Disagrees With Procedure; Crowd Attends Final Session**

Direct intimation that he did not intend to rest quietly under the verdict of the Legislature to abolish the elective form of police commission in Victoria was given by Commissioner Andrew McGavin to a Times reporter at the conclusion of a short meeting held by himself and Commissioner Mrs. Dorothy North in the police courtroom this morning.

"If you think this thing is finished you're crazy," he said. "It has only just started."

Commissioner McGavin did not reveal what he intended to do.

Mrs. North accepted the verdict of the legislature philosophically.

"I have no regrets," she said. "Except in regard to the way this thing was done without giving us a chance to defend ourselves. I don't think it is right to take away the people's franchise this way at all."

#### SHORT MEETING

The police courtroom was crowded for the final meeting, which marked the extinction of a police commission system which has been in force in Victoria for the last fourteen years. It lasted only fifteen minutes, the only business being statements by the two commissioners in regard to the events leading up to their removal from office. Mayor Leeming was not present.

Commissioner McGavin's statement included a flat denial of the charge of interfering with Magistrate Jay's judicial orders.

After the commissioners had been informed by the secretary that Mayor Leeming would not be present, Commissioner McGavin called the meeting to order and asked Mrs. North if she had anything to say about the situation.

#### HAVE DON THEIR BEST

She said: "I believe, in the first place, we have tried hard to do the best we can in conducting of the police force."

"The action of the magistrate is childish and I think the Attorney-General has gone mad."

"The magistrate says conditions are intolerable because of interference by the commissioners. As far as I am concerned I have never spoken to the magistrate. As for the charge that 'Chicago methods' have been employed here, it is an outrage for the Attorney-General to say such things, especially in view of the fact that everyone knows the police department is operating smoothly and efficiently."

"I certainly can't understand the action that has been taken and I protest."

#### McGAVIN'S STATEMENT

Commissioner McGavin then said that since it was apparently the commissioners' last meeting, and he had no regrets, he also wished to make a statement. It follows:

"Since I have been elected as Police Commissioner, I have at no time told the chief of police not to enforce the law. At the conference held on Saturday, April 2, I ordered the chief of police, in the presence of Lawyer Fred Elliot, Alderman Williams, John T. Braden and Mrs. North, to do his duty. Mr. Elliot and the chief of police got into a heated argument over the legality of the Hospital Club scheme, and the chief of police, who was feeling rather annoyed, rushed out of the office and went upstairs to Magistrate Jay to get out a warrant to search the premises of the Hospitals Club. He then returned to the office and apologized to Mr. Elliot and sat down along side of me and told me that he got a warrant out, but would not execute same on account of Mr. Williams being an old friend of his and had helped him in many ways since he came to Victoria. He also remarked to me that there might be a private prosecution."

"As a result of Magistrate Jay's letter, the Attorney-General has decided to abolish the present commission and substitute an appointed body, the selection of which is taken out of the hands of the electors. The fundamental principle of democratic government is that the people shall rule, but this move will deprive the people of Victoria of that right without reference to their opinion on the matter."

#### NOT FAIR PLAY

"Such a course is contrary to British fair play. The Police Commissioners are charged with obstructing the administration of justice, and convicted without being given a chance to defend themselves. For my part I emphatically deny the charge. Newspaper reports of statements attributed to the Attorney-General state that two commissioners instructed the chief to refrain from executing the search warrant. I certainly was not one, and as the mayor is absolved from blame I can only assume that one or both persons were not police commissioners."

"Reference has been made in the press to a threat to 'strip the shirt off the chief's back.' The inference is that I was a party to the act of intimidation. This I deny. If some person who is not a member of the commission invited the chief to a private house and threatened him, I fail to see why the press, by inference, should endeavor to fasten the blame to me."

#### REFERS TO VOTE

"At the last election I polled the largest vote ever received by a Police Commissioner in Victoria. My previous two years record was on trial, and the people expressed their confidence in no uncertain voice. I can speak only for myself, but I cannot too emphatically declare that at no time have I obstructed the chief in the execution of his duty."

"I am at a loss to account for the statements made by Magistrate Jay's letter to the Attorney-General. I am quite aware of the fact that no person can interfere with the execution of a search warrant, and if two commissioners attempted to do so I can only say that I was not one of them, nor can I be responsible for the actions of the other two."

"Is the franchise to be taken away from Victoria without first inquiring into the truth of the charges? Provision could be made for such action to be taken following an investigation providing the charges were proved. But perhaps those who are working to bring about the abolition of the elective system are afraid to face the probable result of such an investigation."

Mrs. North moved the meeting adjourn.

#### AS CLEAR AS MUD

**IF THE LAYMAN WERE TO DISCUSS IN** serious vein the phraseology employed in our laws, he would be figuratively put in his place. Hence, a bill before the Legislature—No. 62 and in the hands of Mr. Maitland, called an act to amend the "Contributory Negligence Act"—may be quoted here almost in full with but brief comment:

Section 2 of the "Contributory Negligence Act," being chapter 8 of the Statutes of 1925, is amended by adding thereto the following clause:

Where different degrees of fault are established, nothing in this section shall operate so as to entitle a person to recover from any other person more than an amount which bears the same proportion to the loss or damage caused to the first-mentioned person as the degree of fault of that other person bears to the degree of fault of the first-mentioned person, after deducting from that amount an amount which bears the same proportion to the loss or damage caused to that other person as the degree of fault of the first-mentioned person bears to the degree of fault of that other person.

While our legal friends probably will regard the clause we have quoted as a gem as far as clarity of construction is concerned, we fear that a critical public will ask why Mr. Maitland considered it necessary to use those two commas.

### COUNCIL BACKS POLICE CHANGE

Action initiated in the Legislature by Attorney-General R. H. Pooley to abolish the elective police commission system in Victoria was given the approval of the Victoria City Council yesterday afternoon by a nine to one vote.

The motion of endorsement was discussed and passed in camera after being proposed by Alderman P. R. Brown. According to a subsequent statement by Mayor Leeming the council, with the exception of Alderman R. T. Williams, voted solidly to support the Attorney-General. Alderman John Worthington seconded the resolution.

The motion read: "That the Victoria City Council approves the action of the Hon. R. H. Pooley, Attorney-General, in introducing legislation to provide for a change in the constitution of the Board of Police Commissioners."

"That the mayor be requested to thank the Hon. R. H. Pooley, Attorney-General, for the valuable assistance and co-operation rendered by his department and the provincial police to the Victoria Police Department."

The last clause of the resolution, it is understood, refers to the action of the provincial police in executing a search warrant sworn before Magistrate George Jay in regard to the Victoria Hospitals Club.



# Police Board Law Reflects On City Liberals Declare

Attorney-General Adamant  
on Compulsory Change of  
Commission

VICTORIA AFFAIRS ARE  
AILED IN LEGISLATURE

Mr. Pooley Declares Chief  
Heatley Was Bull-dozed By  
Private Individual

With Opposition members of the Legislature declaring it was a terrible reflection on the electors of Victoria, Attorney-General Pooley stood firm in the Legislature yesterday and insisted on the passing of the amendment to the Municipal Act, which forces the abolition of the present Victoria Police Commission.

The Attorney-General said before bringing in the legislation, that he had been assured by Mayor Leeming the city council would be in favor of the system providing a board of a mayor, county court judge and municipal magistrate instead of the elected board. While Mr. Pooley was speaking to the afternoon session the resolution in favor of the change arrived from the Victoria City Council.

## STANDS FOR ALL TIME

This, T. D. Pattullo, Leader of the Opposition, and A. M. Manson pointed out, was all the more reason why it was unnecessary to put legislation on the statute books making the change compulsory in Victoria while it was subject to an application from councils in the case of other municipalities. The legislation would stand for all time as a reflection on the electors of Victoria they pointed out, criticizing Mr. Pooley for what they described "bludgeoning methods."

## GALLERIES FILLED

The discussion took place before well-filled galleries at the afternoon session. At night the galleries were crowded again by spectators, anticipating Victoria's police affairs would again be discussed, were disappointed. Few realized the matter was before the House. With the Attorney-General absent, Hon. J. W. Jones, Finance Minister, moved the amendment to the Municipal Act be given third reading. It conveyed no information to the uninitiated that it referred to the burning subject.

Mr. Manson thought the minister was rushing the matter and doubted if the bill was yet printed. It was found it was and final reading was given. To become effective it now has only to be signed by the Lieutenant-Governor. It is expected he will do this Monday or Tuesday.

## POOLEY STANDS PAT

In the afternoon discussion Mr. Pooley was adamant in his decision to make the amendment to the act providing for the abolition of police boards and the substitution of the Ontario system of a mayor or reeve, a judge of the county court and a police magistrate compulsory in Victoria. He refused to be turned from his decision by arguments of Mr. Pattullo, Opposition leader, and Mr. Manson.

While other municipalities would be permitted to make the change subject to a petition of the council in Victoria, he insisted a state of affairs had been created which justified his insistence the change go into effect immediately.

During the discussion, Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., minister without portfolio, voiced the hope Vancouver would study the new system and take advantage of it, although he made it clear he was not attacking the present police commission of that city.

After the Attorney-General had explained the amendment at the afternoon session of the Legislature and emphasized the change was compulsory, and effective immediately in Victoria, Mr. Pattullo urged him to reconsider the latter part of the amendment.

It would be a reflection on Victoria to have such kind of legislation on the statute books, Mr. Pattullo said. The Attorney-General proposed to get away from the position of elected police commissioners, Mr. Pattullo proceeded. Victoria had elected two commissioners, whose actions, apparently, were not approved of by the Attorney-General. The speaker was not saying whether the Attorney-General was right or wrong. He now proposed, however, to say to Victoria "you are not capable of running your own affairs."

"INSULT TO ELECTORS"  
"You are insulting the council and insulting the electors," said Mr. Pattullo. "The Attorney-General is rushing in with the big stick and the bludgeon when anything happens he does not approve of. No one is afraid of him, except so far as the insult to the intelligence of the electors of Victoria is concerned." Mr. Pattullo said he was not opposed to the amendment if the last clause making it compulsory in the city of Victoria was eliminated.

"Surely you are not suggesting the citizens of Victoria are not as intelligent as the electors of the rest of the province," said Mr. Pattullo, "although it is true they did elect four Conservatives."

Mr. Manson thought the Attorney-General was going too far. A mistake was being made in segregating Victoria for special treatment and Mr. Manson did not think there was justification for doing so. Victoria electors chose these commissioners. It was their responsibility, and the matter should be deferred to the city of Victoria.

"TEAPOT TEMPEST"  
"I have listened to the other side of this question," said Mr. Manson, referring to having seen Commissioner A. McGavin, "and it appears to me there is very much of a tempest in a teapot." Mr. Manson recalled the issuing of the warrant by Magistrate Jay to make a raid on the suspected sweepstake quarters. He was informed that neither of the commissioners interfered with the chief of police in carrying out the search. Commissioner McGavin, however, did consult counsel at his own expense, which was a reasonable course, as there were cases where damage actions had resulted from raids which were not justified. There was some delay while the commissioner sought legal advice, and the magistrate became annoyed.

"It was not his business," said Mr. Manson. "With every respect to the magistrate—he is a man in years—I think he erred. It is not his business to see a warrant is executed." The chief of police might have hesitated after he got the warrant fearing the raid might lead him into difficulties. Mr. Manson did not think on consideration the Attorney-General could justify his stand to make the legislation compulsory in Victoria.

## SAYS CHIEF BULLDOZED

"I would not advise this legislation," said Mr. Pooley. "If I had not every ground for doing so, Mr. Pooley insisted the chief of police was told at a meeting of the commission not to issue the warrant."

"And a private individual came in and bulldozed the chief," said the Attorney-General with emphasis.

Mr. Pooley declined to name the individual. Proceeding he asked what right a police commissioner had to take counsel's opinion of the subject which was outside his jurisdiction.

"Both the commissioners are liable to terms in the penitentiary for what they did," Mr. Pooley said.

Mr. Manson: "I don't think they did."

Mr. Pooley: "I have the written information."  
The Attorney-General proceeded to cite another case where, he said, the chief was hauled on the carpet and called to a house where the two people accused were sitting in the next room. Then a private individual said: "I took the shirt off Chief Fry's back and I will take it off yours if you don't do as you are told." The two commissioners were there, Mr. Pooley asserted.

"It was afterwards approached by two police commissioners to let off this bootlegger who had previously been twice accused of keeping a disorderly house. This man McGavin had the effrontery to tell me he had certain duties to perform in this matter, and when I refused to consider his attempt to interfere with administration of justice he then made insulting re-

marks to the Attorney-General of this province," continued Mr. Pooley.

"When the oldest magistrate in this province tenders a complaint of such interference as he did I decided it was interference that could not be tolerated. Everybody has the greatest respect for this magistrate, who for twenty-four or twenty-five years has been elected head of the Victoria School Board."

Mr. Pooley claimed that complaint was proved justified when provincial police stepped in to help execute the warrant and evidence was found.

At this stage the Attorney-General produced a request from the Victoria City Council passed at a meeting that afternoon for the change in police commissions to be made, and expressing approval of the action of the Attorney-General in introducing legislation to provide for the change.

"Now the City Council has done this by resolution," commented Mr. Pattullo, "there is no need to put a specific record on the statute books for all time that is obviously a direct reflection on the city of Victoria."

"As I have been informed," said Mr. Pooley, "the police commission are going to have a meeting this afternoon and fire the chief. I propose to leave the section there."

## GOOD FOR VANCOUVER

Mr. Maitland claimed that as the Attorney-General had met with a sudden defiance of every rule that goes hand in hand with the administration of justice there was nothing else he could do. In the last analysis the administration of justice in the province was in the hands of the Attorney-General. It was a situation without precedent. The speaker never could see what a police commission had to do with a warrant after it was sworn out. He differed with Mr. Manson that a warrant was permission to search. No politician or anyone else had a right to interfere with the administration of justice.

Ontario did a mighty good thing, Mr. Maitland thought when they lifted the police commission out of politics. Police commissioners who were elected often thought they had the dispensation of a form of political patronage. British Columbia must guard against a police system or court system such as the United States where judges were elected.

## OUT OF POLITICS

Elected police commissioners were subject to be swayed by people interested in criminal law often comprising the lowest human element. He hoped all cities of British Columbia would make a study of this legislation and that Vancouver would make the greatest study of it. Vancouver's police board under its present system was sometimes good, sometimes bad, sometimes weak, sometimes dignified and sometimes a laughing stock. The speaker pointed out he was not singling out the present police board of which he had little knowledge. If Vancouver adopted the new system the suggestion the police board was controlled by political string would be removed for all time to come.

Mr. Manson again insisted a search warrant was not a command and a magistrate's duty ended when he issued it. He agreed if a person a police commissioner or anyone else interfered with the administration of justice he should be punished. They should be fair to the people attacked. He had met one of them and he seemed thoroughly respectable. Mr. Manson had no reason to disbelieve him when he said he did not interfere. It was not a crime that was involved. It was a matter of an alleged sweepstake about which opinions differed. Some of the finest people agreed with sweepstake.

Mr. Maitland: "If you let charity in to-day you let a scoundrel in tomorrow."

Mr. Manson then asked the Attorney-General if he knew that some of the sweepstake tickets about which so much fuss was being made were being sold up to a few hours of the time in the constituency of Esquimalt.

Now he had official intimation he would act upon it, Mr. Pooley replied, stating he had before sent the Provincial police into Esquimalt.

Mr. Pattullo remarked Mr. Pooley seemed to believe any means justified the end. Because one man had made derogatory remarks about him he was going to get even.

"Small town stuff," commented the Attorney-General. "I consulted the mayor of Victoria before I brought down this amendment and he was sure it would get the support of the City Council."

After reading the complaint of Magistrate Jay, Mr. Manson remarked he thought the magistrate took an extraordinary position.

# ELECTIVE PLAN ADOPTED 1918

New Act Throws Out Police  
Commission Form of Last  
Fourteen Years

Victoria to Have Its Fourth  
Different Type of Police  
Board

Victoria's elective police commission system, which, as far as practical purposes are concerned, passed into history to-day at a fifteen-minute meeting in the police court room, has been in force for the last fourteen years, a perusal of records shows.

In 1918 the city switched from the selective system to the elective system on an enactment by the Legislature.

The new system, as outlined in Attorney-General Pooley's bill in the Legislature, calls for the constitution of the commission as follows: The mayor, as chairman; a county court judge, and the police magistrate. This is the same form as that used in Ontario and has not been tried formerly in Victoria.

It will be the fourth system tried by the city for its police commission. From 1896 to 1898 the commission consisted of the mayor, the police magistrate and one outsider appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. In 1899 the act was amended and the commission became composed of the mayor and two persons appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, one of whom had to be a member of the City Council.

In 1918 the elective system was adopted, the first commissioners being the late R. S. Day and P. M. Linklater.

# RELIEF INQUIRY CALLED EVASION

"Shameless Distortion of  
Truth," Says Vancouver  
Board of Trade Head

"If Anyone Told Truth He  
Would Have Been Criticized,"  
Brown Says

Vancouver, April 9.—Investigation into relief camp expenditure in British Columbia, carried on recently by a select committee of the Provincial Legislature, was "a spectacle of shameless evasion and distortion of the truth," Harold Brown, president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, told members of the Real Estate Exchange at a luncheon in Hotel Georgia on Friday.

"I 'sat in' on some of the sessions of the so-called probe," Mr. Brown declared, "and can draw my own conclusions from what I saw and heard. If anyone told the truth they would have been crucified."

Unemployment relief, the major crisis of the present day, must be taken from the realm of politics, the speaker said, and his remarks were greeted with applause.

## DIRECT RELIEF HARMFUL

The present session of the Legislature has not produced a single constructive idea which would contribute to the solution of the economic situation, Mr. Brown charged. He pointed out that when the special committee to receive suggestions met, few appeared before it.

Definite proposals were, however, presented by himself and Frank C. Brown, chairman of the British Columbia division of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

Direct relief and payments by organized charity do no moral good to the community, he continued, and are "a degradation of human character."

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## WOULD ABOLISH OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

Failing That A. M. Manson Would Call on Him For Income Tax

Taxation Bill Discussed in Committee Stage in the Legislature

The suggestion that the Lieutenant-Governor's exemption from income tax be swept aside was offered in the Legislature yesterday evening by A. M. Manson, K.C., when the taxation bill was under discussion. Mr. Manson noted both the Lieutenant-Governor and the Governor-General were excluded.

"If I had my way I would do away with the post altogether," the former Attorney-General said. "We can't do that," he proceeded, "but we can include him in the income tax. There is no possible reason in the wide world why this exemption clause should be here. We can't make the Governor-General pay income tax but we can tax the Lieutenant-Governor. Usually it is a very wealthy man who accepts the post. Besides the \$10,000 he is paid he has a substantial income, probably many times in excess of the \$10,000 he receives. Why in time of stress like this should we grant him income tax exemption simply because the Dominion asks him to fill this position?"

### ALWAYS DONE

Mr. Manson admitted that it always had been done and voiced the view it should have been changed when the administration to which he belonged was in office.

"There had been occasions," he proceeded, "when the man in office actually gained through holding the position because of the exemption. In one case it was estimated the incumbent of the office saved \$35,000 a year through the income tax exemption. When we are taxing people who cannot afford to pay I think, we might sweep away this exemption."

Hon. J. W. Jones, Minister of Finance, pointed out a Lieutenant-Governor had to do a great deal of entertaining at great expense.

Mr. Manson thought this was a time when a lot of entertaining could be eliminated.

Mr. Jones remarked there were not many applicants for the position. Ontario was having trouble to get a man to fill it.

"And they are doing very well without a Lieutenant-Governor," commented Mr. Manson.

### CORPORATIONS

During other discussion on sections of the bill the Finance Minister said it was estimated elimination of certain exemptions from Guarantee Loan and Trust Company and public utility corporations would in some instances increase their taxation 50 per cent.

On request of L. A. Hanna, Liberal, Alberni, a section regarding exemptions for single men was held over. Mr. Hanna drew attention to the case of the single man living away from home but responsible for the maintenance of his family to whom he sent money.

### RECEIVED AND SPENT

Dr. H. C. Wrinch, Liberal, Skeena, drew attention to a section which called for every person to keep books. What about the person who was unable to keep books? he asked. He pointed to the case of Dora and David in David Copperfield where Dora entered on one side of the ledger, "Received £60," and on the other side "Spent it."

When the schedule of graduated taxation was presented, T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, formally went on record opposing it.

"Married men with two dependents will be paying less than at the present time," Mr. Jones pointed out.

"But they will be paying a whole lot more than they did in 1928," Dr. Wrinch commented. Dr. Wrinch also objected at the tax stopping at 10 per cent on incomes of \$19,000.

### MEN ON SHIPS

H. F. Kergin, Liberal, Atlin, elicited from the minister that officers and men on ships were to be charged income tax on the shipping company's estimate of the value of board and room furnished them when at sea.

"These men are mostly married and maintain homes," said Mr. Kergin. "Why should they be doubly taxed in this way?"

Dr. W. H. Sutherland, Liberal, Revelstoke, elicited that persons having domestic servants had not only to make monthly returns on the salaries paid to these employees, but had to assess the value of room and board and pay a tax on the value of the board.

"Why not let them do it once a year instead of having to send in about fifty cents a month?" he suggested.

Mr. Manson suggested that domestic servants be left out on account of the inconvenience of collection.

Mr. Pattullo pointed out that all persons, male and female, regardless of age, were taxpayers.

### EVEN LISPING BABIES

"Even a lisping baby of five years if he happens to earn a few dollars is to be taxed," he commented. "This tax reaches out even to the little newspaper merchants who deliver our papers and makes them taxpayers."

The supply bill gathering all the estimates together into one lump sum was finally put through the Legislature with all the customary ritual yesterday evening.

With the supplementaries added in the total sum voted for current expenditure purposes is \$25,073,974.95.

The government has also taken power to borrow \$7,500,000 under the general loan bill and in addition has unlimited power to borrow such sums as it may consider necessary for unemployment purposes. No direct provision for unemployment is made in the estimates.

The total spending power thus conferred on the government this session is \$32,573,974, plus whatever the cost of unemployment relief may be. Last year it was about \$3,500,000.

### ELECTIONS BILL

Progress was made on the Provincial Elections Bill in the committee stage, several amendments being introduced by Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe. One provided that old lists shall be good until new ones are made. Although one section differentiating between citizens and naturalized citizens was struck out, Mr. Pattullo claimed the discrimination was still retained in another, and did not approve. After full citizenship had been granted, there should be no discrimination, he claimed.

Sections regarding mainland ridings were left over until the redistribution bill was before the House. A section calling for ballots to be marked with the pencil supplied at the polls was stood over after claims that it was too exacting were made. Any pencil that did not make a distinctive mark was sufficient, it was claimed, and as many automatically reached for their own pencils when they needed one, the section might deprive many of their votes.

### PASS SECOND READING

The taxation act amendments implementing the new income tax act went through second reading without debate, Mr. Pattullo, merely recorded a protest against all the important legislation being unloaded on the House at the last minute, imposing on members the necessity of informing themselves of its contents in the small hours of the morning after the House adjournment at midnight.

Hon. R. L. Maitland obtained second reading of amendments to the superannuation act enabling civil servants on temporarily reduced pay to make the full payments to superannuation fund so as to keep their status intact. Provisions affecting employees of the Vancouver Sewerage Board were also incorporated.

## ISLAND LOSES ONE SEAT IN REDISTRIBUTION BILL

Alberni Divided Between Comox and Nanaimo As Alberni-Nanaimo

Forty-seven Instead of Forty-eight Members Provided For

Vancouver Island loses one seat through the amalgamation of the Alberni and Nanaimo ridings, and Vancouver gets an extra seat. A new constituency of Peace River is created, but other amalgamations are made to make forty-seven members of the B.C. Legislature instead of forty-eight in the redistribution bill brought down yesterday in the Legislature by Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe. The indemnity of members is cut from \$2,000 a year to \$1,800.

Vancouver will have nine members, sitting two for Vancouver Centre, two for Vancouver Burrard, two for Vancouver East and three for Vancouver Point Grey.

Victoria retains its present four members. There is a new constituency of Peace River.

Alberni constituency is divided between Comox and Nanaimo, which latter is now to be known as Alberni-Nanaimo.

Columbia is divided between Revelstoke and Cranbrook.

Nelson and Creston are combined.

These last three reductions are offset by the two increases, one in Peace River and one in Vancouver, the net change being a reduction of one in the size of the House.

The boundaries of all but half a dozen constituencies have been subjected to minor changes.

Vancouver's new constituencies are as follows:

Vancouver Centre: That portion of the city lying north of False Creek and Terminal Avenue and west of Victoria Drive.

Vancouver Burrard: That portion of the city lying between False Creek and Sixteenth Avenue on the north and south and between Alma Road and Victoria Drive on the east and west.

Vancouver East: That portion of the city lying west of Burnaby municipality from Burrard Inlet to the Fraser River and bounded on the west by Victoria Drive from the Inlet to Sixteenth Avenue and by Fraser Avenue from Sixteenth Avenue to the river.

Vancouver-Point Grey: Bounded on the south by the Fraser River, and on the north by English Bay as far east as Alma Road, and from Alma Road to Fraser Street by Sixteenth Avenue.

The boundary streets in the new Vancouver lineup are Terminal Avenue between Vancouver Centre and Vancouver Burrard, Victoria Drive at the easterly end of those two constituencies; Alma Road at the westerly end of Burrard, Sixteenth Avenue between Burrard and Vancouver Point Grey, Fraser Street between Vancouver-Point Grey and Vancouver East.

Lulu Island and Sea Island are shifted from Richmond-Point Grey into Delta.

Burnaby loses that portion of the City of Vancouver now within the electoral district of Burnaby and is extended eastward to the Pitt River bridge, taking in Port Moody and Coquitlam, which formerly belonged to Dewdney.

New Westminster is extended eastward to take in Fraser Mills and D.L. 16, lying between Fraser Mills and the city.

Dewdney is extended eastward to make up for its losses to New Westminster and Burnaby. Agassiz and Hope, formerly in Yale, are now to be part of Dewdney.

North Vancouver is unchanged. Chilliwack is extended to the east as far as Silver Creek and takes in Rosedale from Yale.

Yale is shortened on every side. In addition to the changes already mentioned it loses the main line territory from Ashcroft to Lytton, which territory is transferred to Lillooet. Yale is now confined practically to the Nicola and Coquihalla valleys, with a practically uninhabited bit of the Skagit added.

Lillooet loses in the west for what it gains in the east. All the west Howe Sound territory from Woodfibre south is taken out of Lillooet and added to Mackenzie, which is now run south from Jerbis Inlet to take in Sechart, Roberts Creek and West Howe Sound.

Mackenzie, however, loses the inaccessible inland cattle country over the height of land to Cariboo.

Prince Rupert and Atlin are unchanged, in spite of many rumors that the former was to be greatly enlarged.

Skeena and Omineca are virtually unchanged, except that Telkwa is taken out of Skeena and added to Omineca.

### CUT IN HALF

Fort George is cut in half by the setting up of the new constituency of Peace River, the south-western boundary of which is the summit of the Rockies. Fort George is compensated for this loss by being extended eastward to the Alberta boundary along the Canadian National, taking in Red Pass and other points formerly in Salmon Arm constituency.

The upper North Thompson, part of Salmon Arm, is now attached to Kamloops, and Salmon Arm acquires the Eagle Creek country on the east to compensate for its losses in the north.

Revelstoke loses Eagle Creek on the west and Arrowhead on the south, but is extended along the main line of the C.P.R. to take in Golden and Field.

Columbia riding disappears. Golden territory goes into Revelstoke and all the valley from Spillimacheen south is appended to Cranbrook. Fernie is unchanged. Cranbrook gets the addition from Columbia already mentioned.

Creston and Nelson are combined under the name of Nelson. Kaslo-Slocan is extended up the Arrow Lakes to take in Arrowhead and loses Riondel and Crawford Bay to Nelson.

Roseland-Trail is unchanged, except to pick up Columbia Gardens from Creston.

Grand Forks-Greenwood, North and South Okanagan and Similkameen are practically unchanged except for some geographer's improvements in the boundaries to conform to heights of land.

On Vancouver Island Victoria, Esquimalt and Saanich are unchanged. Cowichan-Newcastle acquires Gabriola and Valdez Islands from The Islands and surrenders South Wellington to the new constituency of Alberni-Nanaimo.

Alberni is divided between Comox and the new district. The northern part of the island from Kyquoot on the west coast is taken from Alberni and added to Comox. A small bit of Alberni on the southwest goes into Cowichan-Newcastle.

## RELIEF REPORT FIGHT LOOMS

Unemployment Committee Members to Hear Chairman and Counsel Monday

To hear the report as prepared by Chairman H. D. Twigg, and Brigadier-General J. A. Clark, government counsel, before it is presented to the Legislature Monday afternoon, a special session of the Legislature's unemployment relief committee has been called for 10 o'clock Monday morning.

General Clark has been busy on the report since the last session of the committee on Wednesday. It was indicated yesterday evening that the report, which is a lengthy affair, has been completed and Mr. Twigg is having copies prepared for members of the committee and for tabling in the House.

It is expected that the report will be endorsed by the government majority of the committee just as it has been prepared by General Clark and Mr. Twigg, although the opposition minority on the committee said yesterday evening that they would fight it as it had all been prepared without consulting them and presents only the opinions of General Clark and Mr. Twigg, exonerating the government.

Opposition members said they would have something lively to say about the whole unemployment inquiry when the report comes up in the Legislature Monday.



## Across The Bay

We put on our seven-league boots—we give the government a blank cheque—but with some private doubts—we pass three sentences of death—and we hope that the end is not far off.

By H. B. W.

**WE HURRIED** towards the end on Friday in those seven-league boots which are reserved for the dying hours. We swept, in a few minutes, over ground which would have required as many days back at the beginning of the session. And though we had grudgingly given up hope of finishing by the week-end, though we knew we must come back Monday, we were determined to make these dying hours as short and painless as possible.

**THE DAY** started in the usual testy, Friday-afternoon humor, aggravated by so many previous Friday afternoons that we have lost all count of them by now. When you realize that we expected to prorogue two Fridays back, and that we are definitely going into next week, you will understand why Mr. Pattullo was annoyed. Mr. Pattullo protested, and the truth of his protest was apparent to all, that the government was heaving nearly all the vital legislation of the session into the House at the last minute, when no one had time to consider it properly.

**AS FOR MR. PATTULLO**, he found it necessary, after the House adjourned at midnight, to sit up until two or three in the morning to try to make something out of the legislation which the government had had a full year to prepare. However, he was fair enough to admit that with three hours' consideration, he probably knew more about any given subject, like a piece of legislation, than the government could find out in three months. Still, keeping such hours, it was no wonder the House was ragged, said Mr. Pattullo. The truth of that statement was apparent to all.

**THIS WAS** all introductory to a debate on unemployment in the future sense which, in its turn, was only introductory to another more hectic debate on unemployment in the past tense. That is to say, we were debating the government's proposals for unemployment relief during the next year, but we have yet to debate its handling of unemployment relief in the last year. The government asks, in effect, for a blank cheque like Premier Bennett's—power to borrow an unlimited sum for unemployment relief. But where the House of Commons took weeks to debate this issue, we, being in the dying hours and desperately anxious to escape from them, took only a few minutes.

**MR. PATTULLO** made his opposition to the blank cheque quite clear, however, pointed to the grave historical surrender of Parliament's rights involved in blank government cheques, but said he was not going to allow anyone to say afterwards that he had interfered with unemployment relief measures. Therefore, while thoroughly disagreeing with the bill, he would vote for it.

**MR. MANSON** did not propose to allow the government to get off so easily. He started off on the trail of the government's deficits, and, knowing that it leads into a vast region and unexplored, Mr. Speaker could not see it was in order. Mr. Manson persisted and made our flesh crawl with his alarming mathematics. He foresaw a deficit of \$8,000,000 for the fiscal year just ended, and \$10,000,000 for the next one. Mr. Jones denied everything magnificently. He kept denying it so magnificently, with aggravating little interruptions, that Mr. Manson finally abandoned his usual urbanity and remarked that the House was entitled to expect something better than a schoolboy in the ministry of finance. Mr. Jones denied everything again.

**THIS TIME** Mr. Manson called Mr. Jones a chattering magpie. Mr. Jones still chattered. Mr. Manson would resume his seat until the chattering ceased. Mr. Manson did resume his seat. The chattering ceased, but not for long. Still, Mr. Manson got over his main point, a good one—that we can't go on borrowing at high interest rates indefinitely to pay the ordinary running expenses of government, with no capital assets to show in return.

**MR. MCKENZIE** met Mr. Manson, however, even if he did try at first to drag up the Columbia by-election, and to accuse Mr. Pattullo of sitting on an Arizona cactus, which made him bob up so continuously. His argument, designed to impale Mr. Manson on a three-pronged fork, was this: (1) The opposition demands a balanced budget. (2) The opposition demands relief for unemployment. (3) The opposition opposes tax increases. Where, then, is unemployment relief to come from except borrowing?

**BUT MR. PEARSON** was equal to the occasion. He denied the third prong of Mr. McKenzie's fork. He came out flatly in favor of a tax on income to pay unemployment relief, and said that such costs were the only justification for taxing small incomes. And no one could deny the utter soundness of his contention that it was unsound in the extreme to borrow on long terms for the current cost of unemployment and then leave our children to pay back three dollars, in interest and principal, for every dollar we spend on our own maintenance now. For, said Mr. Pearson, by the time these loans have been repaid we should probably pass through five depression periods, in the ordinary cycle, and how the mushroom growth of debt was to be carried after a while no one could foresee. Altogether it was a bad outlook for the next generation, and worse for the one after that.

**JUST BEFORE DINNER** Mr. Hinchliffe, for twelve years the electoral expert of the Conservative Party, brought down the long-heralded, much-fought-over and thoroughly-disappointing redistribution bill. This House being human, and every man in it concerned, despite all public protestations, with the preservation of his political life, the redistribution bill is by far the most interesting measure of the whole session. You could see sure evidence of this vital personal interest as the House adjourned for dinner. Even that comforting respite was delayed. Instead of going to dinner, hon. members of the opposition, who had no inside advance knowledge, pored over the redistribution bill to see what had happened to their constituencies and to their fondest hopes.

**WELL, NOT MUCH** had happened to them. The House was only minus one member altogether, and only two Liberal seats had been removed, as against one Conservative. Mr. King or Dr. Sutherland are out of Columbia-Revelstoke. Mr. Pearson or Mr. Hanna will have to retire in Nanaimo-Alberni. Dr. Borden or Colonel Lister will try to hold Creston-Nelson. Between such old friends it must have been rather embarrassing. But no one said anything. Everyone took it good-naturedly. You would never have known that the government had passed sentence of death against three political lives. But then, that was a small matter compared to the sentences which the electors will pass as soon as they get the chance.

**IN THE EVENING** we passed the supply bill, with the usual elephantine resolutions which mean, though their meaning is obscured by ancient ritual, that the budget, for better or worse, is through. Following up this satisfactory step, Mr. Jones pressed his income tax programme ahead, despite Mr. Pattullo's protest that he was making small boys liable to taxation if they got a quarter for cutting the neighbors' lawns, and thus, in Mr. Pattullo's poetic words, taxing the young before they had ceased to lisp. Mr. Manson was not content with poetry. He wanted action, and he moved to make the Lieutenant-Governor pay income tax. He would have moved to abolish the institution of Lieutenant-Governor and Government House altogether, he said, but alas, these were matters outside our control. He got no support, and the taxation act and a lot of other acts and a raft of general business were polished off with that liveliness which always this House shows in its dying hours.

## DRUGLESS MEN BILL DEFEATED

Few Members in House When Dick Calls For Division on Second Reading

When the Drugless Physicians' Bill was called in the Legislature yesterday there was no further debate. William Dick, the mover, asked for a division. A number of members immediately left the House and the bill was defeated by twenty-four to nine. The following voted for the bill: Dick, Pattullo, Loutet, R. McKenzie, Rutledge, Uphill, King, Pearson and MacPherson. Those voting against it were: Hinchliffe, Pooley, Jones, Howe, Maitland, Hayward, Walkem, Spencer, Heggie, Alward, Macintosh, Michell, MacNaughton, M. Manson, Schofield, Beatty, Shelly, Atkinson, Loughheed, Kergin, Kirk, Berry, Kingston and Carson. The absentees were: Tolmie, W. A. McKenzie, Cornett, Twigg, Gray, A. M. Manson, Sutherland, Wrinch, Lister, Borden, Fitzsimmons, Hanna, Gillis and Bruhn (now in Ottawa). Eight of these had voted against the chiropractor bill and were understood to have absented themselves out of protest to the governmental tactics of making a gesture in favor of the chiropractors while endeavoring to defeat the drugless healers' measure.

## Another Change May Be Made in Workmen's Compensation Board

Contemplated reorganization of the Workmen's Compensation Board besides making H. D. Twigg chairman may place R. J. Hamilton, former Conservative candidate in Burrard, as employers' representative on the board. Some members of the lumber industry it is reported, have suggested that Hugh Gilmour who at present represents employers on the board is not satisfactory to them. The resignation of E. S. Winn is expected because of illness but there has been no hint that Mr. Gilmour is ready to resign. Unless he offers to do so action on the part of the Legislature

would be necessary to make a change in the position he holds.

## REPORT MAKES 13 PROPOSALS

Legislature's Committee Recommends Work in B.C. Instead of Direct Aid Government "Whitewashed" of All Charges of Extravagance and Waste

The report of the Legislature's unemployment relief investigating committee as prepared under Chairman H. D. W. Twigg, for presentation to the Legislature, completely whitewashes the government in its handling of all relief affairs, declaring that "all charges or suggestions of extravagances and irregularities are baseless."

In thirty-eight typewritten pages, the report reviews exhaustively the dealings between the Dominion and Provincial governments, accepts as true the provincial government's statements as to costs of relief camps, and concludes with a series of recommendations.

Construction of the Peace River outlet, land colonization policies, and the setting up of a national unemployment board with a provincial advisory committee consisting of representative business men and the outstanding recommendations.

**CONSTRUCTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS** Following is a complete list of the suggestions for future handling of the problem:

1. Direct relief being wasteful and demoralizing be discontinued in favor of work for remuneration.
2. Investigation as to whether the magnitude of the problem necessitates lessening the burden on municipalities, owing to their limited taxable resources.
3. Steps should be taken to restrict the flow of men from other provinces into B.C., or that the Dominion and provinces of origin of these men be called upon to provide for them.
4. Greater attention to unemployed women with dependents.
5. Establishment of a permanent national board to direct, manage and control unemployment relief, with full powers to co-ordinate Dominion, provincial and municipal activities.
6. Encouragement of land settlement by making acquisition of land reasonable.
7. Young men from eighteen to twenty-five to be placed in separate camps in agricultural areas to be taught to work to farm, and "citizenship," with the aid of instructors from the Department of Agriculture, experimental farms and the university, and that those suited to farming be provided with tracts of suitable land.
8. That negotiations be opened with the Dominion Government with a view of starting on the Peace River outlet and thus give employment to many men. That investigation should be made to the end that suitable men engaged upon such work would be assisted to a reasonable extent in taking up land in the Peace River district.
9. That members of the militia unemployed be cared for by their respective units.
10. Expenditure on non-revenue producing works is held unsound: men should be set to work in their own trades by enlisting heads of industries and if necessary by advancing moneys on loan to basic established industries to enable them to reach export markets.
11. That arrangements should be made for representatives of basic B.C. industries to attend the Imperial Conference as observers to assist the Dominion Government in recapturing Empire markets.
12. That the government encourage and assist trade development and extension of markets for B.C. products.
13. To increase employment in the basic industries a provincial advisory committee be created consisting of those versed in finance, transportation industry and scientific research, who will give their services free and collect data on utilizing the resources of the province and advise the government and business community of their findings.

Notable in these recommendations is the fact that the committee reverts to the colonization and industrial loan policy used by the former government as an aid to reabsorbing the demobilized army into civil life.

# BROWN FACES RELIEF INQUIRY WITH CHALLENGE

## Board of Trade Head, Summoned By Members, Adds To His Charges

**Unemployment Committee  
Has Failed to Satisfy Public  
and Has Been a Waste  
of Public Money, Vancouver  
Business Leader Testifies**

**SEES NOTHING DONE  
TO AVERT TRAGEDY**

**Funds Eaten Up Wholesale,  
He Declares; Sensation Is  
Sprung as Committee Was  
Closing Up Report For  
House on Last Hours of  
Session**

Harold Brown, general manager of the Union Steamship Company and president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, appeared before the Legislature's unemployment relief investigating committee to-day on the eve of the close of the session, and challenged the committee and its works during the last six weeks as "failing to satisfy the commercial mind, as a waste of public money because of its political atmosphere," and because it "has not relieved our minds of the charge of waste and extravagance in the handling of relief in B.C."

"I represent a very important element in the commercial community and the citizens of B.C. are full of anxiety over the situation in this province," Mr. Brown said.

"The unemployment situation has not been assisted by this committee. People are getting desperate. Because of the impending tragedy we are facing right now, I speak intensely. There is much more nervous apprehension in Vancouver than there has been here before this committee. I detect the atmosphere of this whole committee and as I fear its results, it has given rise to my vehement denunciation."

Mr. Brown appeared before the committee on what was to have been a quiet private session day behind closed doors formally to pass on the report of its activities that had been prepared for submission to the Legislature by Brigadier-General J. A. Clark, government counsel.

Mr. Brown was summoned to Victoria to-day and put on the stand by H. D. Twigg, chairman of the committee, because in his speech before the Vancouver Real Estate Board on Friday he had attacked the Victoria committee as "that gorgeous spectacle in Victoria, the so-called relief probe—at \$200 a day—in which if anyone spoke the truth, he would be crucified." "A spectacle of shameless evasion" and "carefully planned to distort the truth."

### REFUSES TO ACCEPT EXPENSES

When the committee opened, Chairman Twigg read a copy of his telegram ordering Mr. Brown to come to Victoria at the public expense and appear before the committee to explain.

Mr. Brown replied he would come to Victoria but not at the public expense, as he would pay his own way.

After an argument between members of the committee as to whether Mr. Brown should be sworn, he said he was quite willing to give his evidence on oath and was sworn.

Chairman Twigg then produced copies of the two Vancouver evening newspapers in which appeared under big heads and in one case spread all across the front page, the reports of Mr. Brown's "shameless evasion" speech of last Friday. Mr. Twigg read through the two reports.

### STICKS TO STATEMENTS

Replying to a question from Mr. Twigg as to the intent of criticism, Mr. Brown said he hoped no interpretation of a personal nature would be placed upon the members of the committee.

"I have followed the course of this committee very carefully and with intense anxiety," Mr. Brown went on. "I have had the means of obtaining information as to what has transpired here."

"Do you apologize?" asked the chairman.

"I stick to my statement," Mr. Brown replied. "These are my pronounced opinions and I withdraw nothing. I am referring to the political character of this committee and I saw that it is futile and a waste of public money."

### FEARS TRAGEDY

Asked about his reference to "shameless evasion," Mr. Brown said, "That is my fixed opinion in relation to the tragedy that is approaching."

"He is referring to the majority members of this committee that are frustrating its inquiry," said T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader.

### NEVER GOT ANYWHERE

Questioned about his statement of "the gorgeous spectacle in Victoria at \$200 a day in which if anyone spoke the truth he would be crucified," Mr. Brown replied there had been no political committee yet before which men could speak the truth.

"They knew it would be as much as their jobs are worth," Mr. Brown added.

Mr. Twigg asked whether Mr. Brown included in his reference such as E. D. Johnson, Deputy Minister of Finance; J. A. Craig, comptroller-general, and other high officials.

Mr. Brown replied that he was mentioning no names specifically, as "it is the question of detail you have not developed," and of the facts and people that were not brought before the committee.

"Yes, nothing could be more of a travesty than the performance of this committee," said A. M. Manson of Omicron.

Mr. Brown went on to testify that at considerable sacrifice to himself, he had come to Victoria recently to testify before the committee as requested. His secretary had notified him that everything had been arranged for him to go on the stand at 10 o'clock one morning, but when he appeared, there was no committee. Mr. Twigg had explained he could not get the committee to-

gether then. But when he did get the committee together that afternoon, Mr. Brown was on his way back to Vancouver, explaining it had been necessary for him to catch the afternoon boat.

### WORKING AS CITIZEN

Asked by Mr. Twigg as to why he, as president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, had sent a written statement to the committee, if he considered the committee was "worthless," Mr. Brown replied: "I feel very deeply about this crisis and I am working as a citizen and because my position is a position of public trust."

"I am challenging the political atmosphere of the committee, which is not satisfying the commercial mind and is a waste of public money," Mr. Brown went on. "Nothing personal enters into it. I am so anxious to make that clear."

### STUDIED ALL EVIDENCE

Mr. Twigg questioned him about his reference to the "distortion of the truth" before the committee.

Mr. Brown replied that he referred to "the nature of evidence, the attitude of the witnesses and the cross-examination."

Asked by Mr. Twigg as to how he could know about what transpired before the committee if he had not been attending its sessions in person, Mr. Brown explained the secretary of the Board of Trade had attended some of the sessions and kept him informed.

"I have also had a transcript of the evidence and read it and studied it," Mr. Brown continued. "And also of the cross-examination. I have had this evidence and been guided by it."

### "FUNDS EATEN UP WHOLESAL"

Mr. Twigg asked for specific details of "distortion of the truth" before the committee.

Mr. Brown said he would not be drawn into details, but would refer to the impression created on the community as a whole by the committee's activities.

"The evidence has not relieved our minds of the charge of waste and extravagance in the handling of relief in British Columbia," Mr. Brown went on. "We are looking to this committee to furnish us with evidence. We know funds were eaten up wholesale. The whole trouble is you cannot get real evidence before a committee of political inquiry."

### WITNESS WAITED, BUT NOT CALLED

Mr. Brown asked why it was, if the committee wanted to get down to facts, that the timekeeper of an Okanagan camp, by the name of Bryan, had not been called to testify, when he had come all the way to Victoria, and then had waited here ten or fifteen days and was not called.

Mr. Manson declared that members of the committee had asked the chairman to have this timekeeper called while he was waiting here to testify, but the chairman had not called him.

The practices in connection with prices and questions of trading in connection with camp supplies should have been investigated, Mr. Brown suggested.

"I draw my conclusions from the whole atmosphere of the inquiry," Mr. Brown continued. "I can form a correct opinion of the atmosphere of the committee."

He asserted the public wanted to learn the details of camp operations, but these had not been brought out. "The committee has been going on and not relieving the public mind on the waste of expenditure on relief camps," Mr. Brown went on.

When Mr. Pattullo uttered some remarks of approval of the statement of Mr. Brown that he was acting only as a "citizen of B.C. full of anxiety over the situation," some heated bickering developed between Mr. Pattullo and Mr. Twigg, which did not end until Mr. Twigg said Mr. Pattullo was acting as a "boy of sixteen."

Mr. Pattullo declared that Mr. Brown would have been still more confirmed in his beliefs if he had sat in on the committee as a member of it.

### PEOPLE GETTING DESPERATE

J. H. Beatty, Victoria, interjected that if Mr. Brown's statements came from Mr. Pattullo they would be considered as political.

"And no one would then have paid the slightest attention to them," Mr. Twigg added.

"The unemployment situation is not being assisted and we are up against an anomalous situation that is not being relieved," Mr. Brown resumed. "People are getting desperate. I have no axe to grind and have carried on my own public work at the expense of my time and health."

Mr. Twigg declared such an opinion about the unemployment situation was not the opinion of the forty-eight members of the Legislature.

Mr. Brown replied that he knew the opinion of the general community as well as any member of the committee.

Mr. Beatty declared that Mr. Brown in uttering such statements as in his speech of Friday was "making communists."

"I am afraid confidence is being lost in the political atmosphere," Mr. Brown replied.

### PARTY POLITICS DANGEROUS NOW

Questioned by Mr. Twigg as to whether he was not "one of those gentlemen who believe in doing away with party government," Mr. Brown replied:

"I think that in the crisis in which we are at the present, party government is dangerous. It is an impending tragedy we are facing right now, and I speak intensely."

Gen. Clark asked about the charge of there being a "careful plan to distort the truth."

Mr. Brown replied that he was not attributing to anyone such a plan.

"Unless you name those whom you exonerate, you incriminate all the witnesses," Gen. Clark said.

Mr. Brown replied he would not be drawn aside into any such details, and he would refuse to name any one particular person.

"You can draw what conclusions you like," Mr. Brown added.

### UNHAPPY ABOUT OUTCOME

"Mr. Brown is not satisfied with the results of this committee," Mr. Manson said. "We are passing through a crisis. I confess I have been most unhappy also about the outcome of this committee."

Mr. Brown added that he did not believe that the people who could assist the committee in discovering the facts had been called before it.

"My anxiety now is with regard to the crisis itself," Mr. Brown went on.

"I have no question about the soundness of Mr. Brown's allegations," Mr. Manson said.

"The reason for the whole trouble was that the counsel for the accused government gathered the documents he wanted and then brought up witnesses to corroborate his contentions," said Mr. Pattullo.

Mr. Brown asked Mr. Twigg whether he considered the inquiry perfect and "are you personally satisfied there was no extravagance whatever?"

"I won't say that," replied Mr. Twigg, who went on to explain that it would not be expected in such an extensive undertaking with camps built with haste there would not be cases of extravagance. He asked Mr. Brown to remember similar conditions during the war.



"Some extravagance in an emergency was to be expected, but the gravamen of the charge was the wholesale nature of the extravagance," said Mr. Manson.

#### BAD INFLUENCE FEARED

"Judged in relation to the very serious crisis that is coming on us the political inquiry is having a very bad influence on the public mind at the present time," Mr. Brown went on.

Replying to a question from Mr. Manson, Mr. Brown said the inquiry would have been more effective if it had been held under private independent persons, as membership in the Legislature did not give a proper qualification for one to carry on such an inquiry.

"I made my attack on the political character of the committee," Mr. Brown went on. "I have no faith in politics on either side. I am carrying out my functions with a great deal of concern in the face of a tremendous, impending tragedy."

Mr. Manson pointed out with regard to the members of the committee that if the government were guilty, it was natural its supporters should be the first to rally to its support.

#### SIZES UP COMMITTEE AS "JOKE"

To Mr. Twigg's question as to whether he had been treated courteously by the committee, Mr. Brown replied that he had and thanked the committee for its courtesy.

"I am indebted to Mr. Pattullo for his contribution to the humor of the situation," Mr. Brown added.

"Unfortunately it is a very grotesque situation," said Mr. Manson.

Mr. Pattullo said: "Humor is life."

"Mr. Brown sized up this committee as a joke," said Dr. W. H. Sutherland of Revelstoke, when the witness stepped down from the stand.

Mr. Manson suggested that it might be a good idea for the committee to do with Mr. Brown as it had done with M. H. McGeough, the federal relief official, after his evidence proved unsatisfactory to the government members, to pass a resolution to prevent him from coming before the committee again.

E. D. Johnson, Deputy Minister of Finance, was again before the committee, to give a few technical details about the additional \$500,000 advanced to the province by Ottawa on April 5.

The members of the committee then went behind closed door to consider the draft report prepared last week by Mr. Twigg and General Clark.

### THE POLICE COMMISSION

#### WHATEVER MAY BE THE RESPECTIVE

merits of elective or appointive city police commissionerships, the government would have been on stronger ground if it had included Victoria with the other municipalities in the amendment to the act which authorizes them to change the form of their police administration on petition from their councils. The fact that the Victoria City Council sent a resolution to the Attorney-General approving of the government's course in the circumstances, while it reflects the view of that body that a change should be made, does not, in our judgment, justify the manner in which this was done.

The responsibility for initiating any change in our police administration should have been placed upon the City Council, not upon the provincial government, where it now lies as far as Victoria is concerned, and for whatever course it might have pursued that Council would have had to answer to the electors of the municipality. The Attorney-General in our judgment would have gone as far as he could reasonably be expected to go if he had dealt with Victoria in the same way in which the other municipalities have been dealt with under this particular amendment of the act. That would have put the whole thing up to this municipality where it belongs.

Before the elective system was adopted in Victoria the police commission was appointed by the government. It consisted of the mayor, one alderman, and a third member not connected with the municipal council. This meant, of course, that the commission invariably wore the stripe of the party in power across James Bay, and the system was attacked frequently on that ground. It was to keep provincial party politics out of the police force that the public of Victoria demanded the right to elect police commissioners. Whether the new system will operate more satisfactorily than either of the forms of police administration which preceded it time will unerringly determine. The answer to the question will be provided by the police department itself.

#### POLICE COMMISSION

To the Editor:—Surely fair-minded public-spirited citizens must burn with indignation at the ruthless high-handed fashion in which the Lord High Executioner Pooley, with a wave of hand wiped out of existence the offending Police Commission, whom the imbecile voters of Victoria elected to office. It must be a "grand and glorious feeling" to be able to annihilate at a stroke those who give annoyance.

The new legislation suggested governing the administration of the police department, etc., may prove more satisfactory in certain ways, but is it common decency to adopt this method of procedure?

The Colonist, in its efforts to try to smooth it over, says: "It is sometimes the case that Police Commissioners are governed by their prejudices and private feelings and use their office and the influence it gives them to do certain things." Excuse me, while I laugh, could this not be said, with more truth, of politicians and many others in high positions?

Is the electorate of Victoria supposed to feel grateful to Magistrate Jay and Attorney-General Pooley for rescuing it from the "Chicago methods" that they would like us to believe they thought existed, or, on the other hand, to a zealous well-intentioned Police Commission who fearlessly set out and put our guardians of the law on their feet in an efficient working bases, properly equipped and a real credit to the city of Victoria?

Is the electorate of Victoria to be brow-beaten and bulldozed? Is it very glorious to take advantage of one's position to ride rough-shod over the less powerful, and one of the so-called weaker sex, at that? One for whom the great and mighty have been waiting and watching to catch making a slight mistake, so as to pounce on her, and crush her. Think of a Police Commissioner hesitating for an instant to carry out an order to raid a club that might be promoting a sweepstake, even though it might have the appealing word "hospital" used to justify its workings—are these frowned on by all? But this was a chance to get after this woman who dared come forward fearlessly to endeavor to right things to the best of her ability, for the welfare of her city.

Has Victoria nothing to say in this matter. Do elections mean nothing? Can the administration of our civic affairs be altered at a stroke, to soothe the imaginary wounds to the pride of disgruntled high "muck-mucks," or some such? What about this British fair play we hear of so frequently? Are we living in the British Empire or where, if at all? Are we imbeciles?

JOSEPHUS.

April 8, 1932.

### REDISTRIBUTION

#### THE REDISTRIBUTION BILL LOOKS

like something that was devised between the soup and fish courses of one of the government's exclusive little dinners. As an aid to Mr. Jones in his perilous tight-rope performance of budget balancing for next year, it is a joke, since it reduces the membership of the Legislature by only one. It is plain enough, however, that when this weird piece of legislation was under consideration the axe which the Minister of Finance has been wielding so vigorously in every other direction was locked up in the government cupboard with its interesting array of skeletons, unpublished but costly reports of commissions, surveys, and other curios.

The government could be a soulful unit on cutting the university appropriation by fifty per cent, or on wiping out the fund for forest protection, but when it came to redistributing the membership of the Legislature down to reasonable proportions its zeal for economy "till it hurts" disappeared. That its zeal for political partisanship remained in undiminished measure, however, is shown by the amalgamation of Nanaimo and Alberni, two seats occupied by Liberal members, but with nothing else in common between them. Likewise Columbia, recently won by a Liberal in a by-election, will disappear.

These readjustments no doubt are regarded by the board of strategy as Napoleonic masterstrokes. Actually, they are merely the by-products of peanut politics, pathetically futile against the sombre background of political realities with which the government is confronted. It was not surprising that a readjusted Vancouver City constituency should have an additional member or that there should be no change in southern Vancouver Island. If anybody had suggested the amalgamation of Victoria with Saanich and Esquimalt he would have been very unpopular in government circles in view of the fact that districts represented by the Premier and Attorney-General would be involved in such a readjustment. Yet it must be obvious to everybody not blinded by party prejudice that no provision of any redistribution measure presented to the House could be more logical than one involving the consolidation of these three constituencies—on the ground of efficiency and economy.

Redistribution of membership in Parliament or Legislatures is a very important matter, and is rarely attempted without careful inquiry by competent committees or tribunals. Even when party advantage is sought, it is not left to amateurs to work out with paint brushes and maps of electoral districts in their idle moments as if they were working out comic valentines for their children. In every case it is a serious business, that is to say, in every case where there is some semblance of statesmanship in government. In the present instance, however, the administration evidently thinks any old thing will do, apparently not realizing that the public is not in the mood to accept that kind of an offering or to feel anything but resentment about it.

### Summer Election In B.C. Forecast; P.G.E. Sale Ready

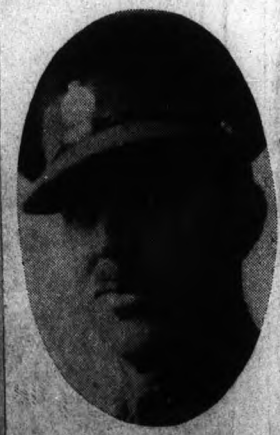
Vancouver, April 11.—A Victoria dispatch to The Vancouver Sun says:

"The Legislature is to prorogue Tuesday without any P.G.E. bill. This is being reserved for a special session expected to be summoned probably about the middle of June. A general election will follow as speedily as possible. It is predicted."

"As stated in The Vancouver Sun a week ago, a P.G.E. sale has been practically consummated. Representatives of the purchasing syndicate have been in Victoria for a month past negotiating with members of the cabinet, and about ten days ago the basis of agreement was reached."

### Birthday Greetings Are Extended To-day To—

CAPT. MACGREGOR MACINTOSH  
MRS. CLEVE WHITE  
P. G. HOPE  
CHESTER DOWMAN



Capt. MacGregor Macintosh, M.P.P., for the Islands, is one of the newcomers to the B.C. Legislature, retaining the seat for the Conservatives when Colonel Cy. Peck resigned to become one of the judges of the Pensions Tribunal. It is a case of one gallant soldier following another for Capt. Macintosh, like Colonel Peck, won honors on the battlefield during the Great War. The captain is successfully piloting a fishermen's bill through the Legislature to stock the streams of Vancouver Island so it will be a case of "cast and bang—a trout every time." He smiles his way through life. Recently he established a reputation for all time as a singer with an impromptu number at a Press Gallery dinner.



# Members Defend Party System Of Government

## NO SWAN SONG, HANNA STATES

Political Career May Be Checked But Not Stopped, Says Alberni Member

Up-island Liberal Claims Party Feeling Behind Elimination

"I don't propose to sing a political swan song. I am a young man. I like politics. Life looks rosy to me. My political life may be checked but it is not ended," L. A. Hanna, Liberal, Alberni, said in the Legislature yesterday in a fighting speech against the section of the redistribution bill, which amalgamates the Alberni constituency to part of it with Nanaimo and part with Comox.

"I don't care what blow the Minister of Education may aim at my political head, but it is due to the constituency of Alberni that this should be protested," Mr. Hanna said. He spoke of the historical importance of Alberni and of its great resources, particularly of lumber and fish. Members for Vancouver district, which gets an extra seat under redistribution, had spoken of the importance of that city with half the population of the province.

**VANCOUVER IN A CIRCLE**  
"But where would Vancouver be without the rest of the province?" Mr. Hanna asked. "Put Vancouver in a circle by itself and it would starve overnight."

Pointing out Alberni was the only West Coast constituency, Mr. Hanna sought the reasons why Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, the author of the bill, sought to eliminate it.

**"IS HE AFRAID?"**  
"Is he afraid," Mr. Hanna asked, "of the newspaper gossip the Alberni member might succeed in his ministerial job and become the youngest Minister of Education in British Columbia? If he is afraid, let me alley his fears. I have no such ambitions."  
Then turning his guns on Hon. S. L. Howe, Commissioner of Fisheries, Mr. Hanna asked if he had anything to do with elimination of the Alberni constituency.

"Is he afraid of the challenge to come and run in the constituency that followed his declaration the member for Alberni was losing grace with the electors?" Mr. Hanna inquired. "Would this situation have arisen if a Tory had represented the district? I leave it to you."

**REGARDLESS OF PARTY**  
"If the people of the district had been consulted, they would, regardless of party, have been against it," Mr. Hanna claimed. Examining the new boundary lines, he pointed out part of the district was going into Comox. "I'll make a guess the member for Comox has never been in the constituency and knows nothing about it," Mr. Hanna said. "He has no knowledge of the requirements and wishes of the people of that district." The people of the Northwest Coast face the prospect of representation by someone who knows nothing about them or their needs. The people of Alberni also had nothing in common with the people of Nanaimo, the speaker pointed out, and, explaining the business done with Vancouver, where the head offices of many Alberni concerns were, he warned Vancouver members they were doing their own city a hardship by agreeing to Alberni being without representation in the Legislature.

Concluding, he claimed that Alberni, a prosperous district and a district that has always held its own, was to be sacrificed on the political altar of the wishes and desires of the Minister of Education.

No Better Substitute Has Yet Been Offered, Champions of Present Method Claim

BUSINESS MEN'S PLAN SCORNE BY MAITLAND

Cities, Bankers, C.P.R. and C.N.R. Are Reasons Against Proposal

The party system of government has stood the test of hundreds of years, while critics have failed to offer a suggestion for any better system of government, members on both sides of the House claimed yesterday, when the redistribution bill was under discussion.

Recent proposals for a commission form of government—a government of businessmen and a non-party form of government—were analyzed and condemned. Proposals for a drastic cut in the number of members of the Legislature were scorned by Hon. R. L. Maitland as emanating from letter writers and editorial writers who had not the faintest idea of the territory that had to be covered by members or the sacrifice of time and money in the interest of public life. Party responsibility was behind party form of government, he claimed.

**CRISIS REACHED**  
A. M. Manson said a crisis in affairs had been reached. People had no confidence in the government. There should be a shake-up in the cabinet. There ought to be a general election as soon as possible so some government had a mandate.

T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, made passing reference to the subject during discussion of the bill. He recalled the non-party government had been tried before the McBride administration. It had resulted in a meeting of the banks being held to save the threatened credit of the province and to advance money so the obligations of the government could be met.

**MATTER OF MEN**  
"Does it not after all come down to a matter of men themselves?" he asked. "If you had a non-party administration an opposition would soon develop and then you would have the 'ins' and 'outs'."

There has also been suggestions of a businessmen's government, Mr. Pattullo proceeded, but he asked, had the experience with businessmen in the present administration been particularly satisfactory. He would not surrender his desire for the welfare of the country to any man. What was needed was men who understood the situation and had the courage to see it through.

**RECORD OF POLITICS**  
Mr. Maitland pointed to Canada's political history and record of sacrifice of men in public life with a party behind them in support of a party form of government. He was for a real party with a real policy and party responsibility behind it rather than an irresponsible happy-go-lucky form of no party government. He showed how short-lived non-party governments of British Columbia had been in the past. There was not a man in the Legislature who was not doing his best in the interests of the province.

He claimed Vancouver had been the soul of sacrifice in redistribution as it carried the greatest load and was affected more than any other city by taxes and legislation passed and roundly scored suggestions of editorial writers for drastic reductions in the membership. There was never a time more than now, with the depression on, when it was so necessary every part of the province be represented. Vancouver editorial writers crying for this reduction were ignorant of the great areas some members had to cover.

### SAYS CRITICISM UNFAIR

Regarding critics of the party form of government and those who scoffed at the proceedings of the Legislature he doubted if those sneerers and snipers could tell the significance of any bill that had gone through this session. The unfair criticism of newspapers had been worse than that of the opposition, he claimed. They had not offered an alternative constructive suggestion, he charged, and were appealing to mob psychology.

While party lines were not perfect they were the best yet, the speaker claimed. There was responsibility behind the parties. He deplored the passing of a public spirit for a dollar and cent psychology, claiming it was party men who had built up Canada.

### "IN SPITE OF HYSTERIA"

In a fit of hysteria some people were demanding a businessman government, he commented. They had an example of what that might mean in the C.P.R. and the C.N.R. and the Canada Power and Paper Company. What would be said of a government who built a hotel like the Hotel Lucerne or the \$20,000,000 liner of the C.P.R., a year before the depression. They had other examples. The "anks for instance. If the humane actions of businessmen were represented by banks they might hope businessmen would never fill the government benches.

Further criticizing non-party government he said actions of hypocritical

independent labor men were another argument against such a system.

"When efforts were made to repudiate those who have tried to give something to public life let us examine who is and what is the kind of man who comes to take his place," Mr. Maitland remarked.

### SEES NO SUBSTITUTE

Mr. Manson said no one had yet evoked a better method than the party method. No constructive suggestions had been offered for a substitute. Non-party government had been tried and failed. The municipalities might be classed as a sample and in some instances taxes had gone up 150 per cent in ten years. To suggest the abandonment of a party system that had stood the test for 100 or 150 years was not in itself constructive suggestion. Those who suggested the membership of the House be cut in half did not know what they were talking about. He would like to take one of them to Omineca and let him see the riding.

### EARLY ELECTION

"This government had not the confidence of the people," Mr. Manson proceeded. Passing of a redistribution bill usually meant an election was in sight. The election should be as early as possible. There should be a severe shake-up in the cabinet. The people had no confidence in it. It was not satisfactory. A crisis had been reached. They could not go on as they were going on now. There should be an election as early as possible and some government should have a mandate. "I regard this crisis as so acute I think the best possible ministry should be formed. Personally, I do not want any consideration at the hands of my leader. I want him to feel he has his hands free to bring in the best men he can possibly secure. Whether they are elected at the general election or not I hope he will pick the finest men he can find and give them seats in the cabinet."

## ANGLERS' BILL IS MODIFIED

Needy Persons Needing Fish For Food Will Not Be Taxed

On the plea of Thomas Uphill, Labor member for Fernie, the new game act provision requiring every male angler over eighteen to take out a one dollar license was modified in the Legislature yesterday to allow the game commissioner or his wardens to issue permits to needy persons who are deemed to require fish for food.

Attorney-General Pooley, however, was adamant to suggestions from H. F. Kergin, Atlin, that the northern country be exempt from the bill.

Capt. MacGregor Macintosh, The Islands, sponsor of the scheme to conserve fish in depleted streams by establishment of rearing ponds with the proceeds of the dollar license fee, suggested that if Mr. Kergin wished to have fish in his streams when the population of Atlin is as dense as that of lower Vancouver Island he had better support the bill.

Mr. Kergin claimed that pioneer settlers and miners should not be required to take out a license to catch fish needed for food and claimed it would take scores of years to fish out the lakes and streams of the north.

## WARNING WAS DUE CITIES

Unfair to Impose New Financial Burden Suddenly, Says Opposition Leader

Loutet Only Conservative Dissenter on Social Service Transfer Bills

The bill loading upon municipalities a share of the cost of patients in industrial homes and institutions and the bill calling upon them to pay half the cost of mothers' pensions, passed second reading in the Legislature yesterday.

J. Loutet, Conservative, North Vancouver, voted against the government on the mothers' pension bill, otherwise there was a straight party vote.

Hon. R. L. Maitland, Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, Rod Mackenzie, W. R. Rutledge, J. H. Beatty and J. G. K. MacNaughton were absent from the House when the vote was taken on the first bill.

J. H. Beatty, J. MacNaughton and W. R. Rutledge were absent when the vote was taken on mothers' pensions. Hon. R. W. Bruhn and George S. Pearson were paired.

T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, voiced the objection of Liberals who voted solidly against both bills which, he said, exemplified three matters had not been handled in the public interests. He noted the cities were given power to set up special funds through a levy above general and other rates. Cities would find themselves forced to go above the rate of twenty mills and would find it difficult to come down again. Instead of throwing the terrific heavy burden suddenly, Mr. Pattullo thought as soon as the government formulated the intention of placing the burden on the cities they should have called them into consultation.

Final reading was given at the evening session to the bill amending the Mothers' Pension Act.

A protest was registered by Tom Uphill, Labor, Fernie, at the presence of police officers when investigations were being made of applications for pensions.

Mr. Pattullo formally registered a protest, stating they had already voiced their views.

An amendment was brought in by Hon. S. L. Howe to the bill making municipalities liable for a portion of the costs of patients in institutions. It covered the case of veterans in hospital for whom the Dominion Government paid the full charge. There was nothing retroactive, Opposition members were assured when questioning one section, and were promised the section would be redrafted to clarify it.

### OTHER BILLS

The bill amending the Superannuation Act was reported complete.

Final reading was given to the bill Amending the Village Municipalities Act.

Progress was made on the bill amending the Shop Regulations Act, which provides for service from garages after regular closing hours without keeping shops open.

Amendments to the Savings and Loan Act, calling for guaranteed stock which has become impaired to be made up within six months, was held up, pending consideration by Attorney-General Pooley to a suggestion by Mr. Manson that the time be extended to nine months.

### VOTERS' LISTS

As few lists as possible would be cancelled under the amended Provincial Elections Act, Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe said in the Legislature yesterday evening when the bill made progress in the committee stage. In Victoria and Vancouver, he said, it would be almost necessary to have new lists. No other lists would be cancelled, unless it was absolutely imperative.

Mr. Pattullo thought more changes in the present system of registration were advisable. The registrar was a passive rather than an active officer. People who were automatically struck off the list often took no further interest, unless an election was in sight, and but for the interest of political parties would often find themselves disfranchised when an election was called suddenly.



## Injustice to Busy West Coast Area, Says Alberni Member

The present bill, he said, was a jerry-mander for the benefit of the Conservative Party. The government was scored for unseemly precipitance in calling the Columbia by-election so soon after the death of Mr. Buchan. Many people in the riding thought it would have been better if no election had been held and the indemnity for this session had been voted to the widow of the man who had represented the constituency for almost a generation.

Minor amendments to boundaries were made by the minister in com-

The bill passed second reading, with Dr. Borden, Mr. Hayward and Mr. Uphill voting with the Liberal members against it. Col. Lister was not in the House when the division was taken.

A busy afternoon and evening session of the B.C. Legislature is anticipated to-day, in an effort to complete all business for prorogation to-morrow morning. The unemployment report, the chiropractor bill and the mortgage moratorium bill are among the outstanding matters to be disposed of. Good progress was made on legislation yesterday evening and Premier Tolmie insisted the House would sit to-night until all bills were ready for the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor to-morrow.

"But you are increasing the tax on all the young people of the province from five years up," said Mr. Pattullo. "Young people under twenty-one are being taxed. Even newboys are being taxed. Here we have taxation without representation in its grossest form. What will they think when they learn banks, who are charging more than at any other time, are not being taxed, yet these young people are paying more." Mr. Pattullo also repeated the charge that the civil service was costing more now than when the present administration took office, and in spite of the premier's own admission that unemployment had been here for four years, the government was still spending more.

Another instance of demoralization is the conduct of the unemployed foremen. These men, in order to be put on the job, have to swear that they are destitute. The city are therefore exempt from paying their regular employees. This and countless other irregularities escape Mr. Pooley, but his noble efforts to uphold the Anti-gambling Act is just divine.

J. FORBES.  
Care of General Delivery, City, April  
11, 1932.



## Across The Bay

The sorely-trying spirit of this House breaks forth—to reveal many things suppressed for long within an aching bosom—to proclaim the triumphs of party politics—and to rebuke the outlanders who think otherwise.

By H. B. W.

THE TORTURED soul of the government burst its bounds on Monday, welled up in a mighty flood and outpoured itself in what sounded very like tears. All that it has suffered in silence these many weeks became suddenly articulate in a burst of righteous wrath which endured all afternoon. It was impressive. It was enough to melt the coldest heart. It was no mere political speech, no formal protest. It was a veritable ululation against the slings and arrows of an outrageous fortune and, in general, against anyone who questions the utter competence of this legislature. It was all that and more but it was not the one thing which everybody wants just now—it was no help in the great project of getting us home Tuesday night.

YES, SUCH outbursts, while cheap at the beginning of the session when weeks are wasted with no business at all, are expensive now. They mean all the difference between getting through and hanging on here in further misery. The Conservative back benches, therefore, while proud of their leaders' eloquence, could have wished that they hadn't been quite so long.

THE DAY started in businesslike fashion as if we should be finished in a few more hours. The Lieut.-Governor came and assented to the bill abolishing the Victoria Police Commission, so that it went out in a blaze of official glory with a special gubernatorial appearance all to itself. We got through the bill making municipalities pay for social services in quick time, too, Mr. Loutet voting against his government with an independence which has usually marked his behavior in this House. Whereupon we came to redistribution and our hearts sank. You can't redistribute, you can't wipe out political lives by a stroke of the pen without trouble. For, while they are forever complaining against them, forever proclaiming their utter, misunderstood misery, non-members are never willing to give up their political lives.

MR. HINCHLIFFE brought the redistribution bill in without apology and without explanation. He said simply that the House couldn't be reduced and that was all there was to it. Mr. Pattullo was also surprisingly brief in his criticism. He agreed that the House couldn't be too small, lest the country fall into the hands of a civil service bureaucracy and he boldly proclaimed his faith in party politics. Mr. Pattullo could see no public despair with the party system and he believed that, the public, comparatively speaking, was well pleased with his late government which naturally had enemies after twelve years. A government, said Mr. Pattullo, admitting the House to the most private deliberations of the late ministry and to a remarkable calculation, made enemies from the day of its birth. As he had said to the late Mr. Sloan, if the seven ministers of the late government had only made one enemy each a day, that would be 2,000 a year, or 25,000 militant kickers in its twelve years of office. A government, indeed, started to go out as soon as it came in. As for the present one, it was merely moving with a record speed, with a "marvelous acceleration." And as for Mr. Pattullo he saw no difficulty ahead for the next government. All that was needed was someone who knew what to do and had the courage to do it—a simple recipe but he did not say who was perfectly fitted to carry it out.

THE REDISTRIBUTION BILL, said Mr. Pattullo was a gerrymander. Mr. King, of Columbia, agreed it was a gerrymander and spoke with the feeling of a man who has no sooner won the riding of Columbia against the full might of the Conservative Party than he finds his constituency wiped out, which assuredly would not have happened had Mr. King failed to win it. Dr. Borden of Nelson went further and, even though he is a loyal Conservative, called it the unfair bill ever introduced in the House, since it wiped out his riding of Nelson, took two seats out of the Kootenays and increased that intolerable domination of provincial affairs by the coast districts—strong words from a loyal Conservative, words of revolt surely but then the government could afford the loss of a vote or two. Still, it must have felt a little badly when Colonel Lister, the president of its own caucus, a gallant soldier beloved of everybody in this capital and a straight shooter, denounced the redistribution bill and declared in favor of cutting down the size of the House all along the line, instead of a singling out of a few seats for sacrifice.

THESE MUTTERINGS of independence, of course, could not be tolerated. They were not in accordance with the best practices of party politics. They must be answered and rebuked and, for this purpose, the government unhesitatingly chose its very best rebuker, Mr. Maitland. Mr. Maitland's speech was more than an answer and a rebuke. It was more like a convulsion of the spirit, a cry of agony in the desert to an unheeding sky. It was a heart-breaking blast against those who dare to question that system of party politics to which Mr. Maitland is so devoted that he defends it thus even though it has treated him with singular injustice. But what of that? The system is the thing, not the individual, and Mr.

Maitland was eager to worship the juggernaut even if it should pass over him the next instant.

MARK YOU, it was a good speech. It was, people said, the best Mr. Maitland has made. It was partisan only as it defended parties for it did not defend one more than the other. It was the voice of all party politicians who would like to be able to say these things but lack the eloquence or the courage. It was the voice of party politics, pilloried so long in the market place, fighting back at last, proclaiming that it had done everything worth while that had ever been done in Canada, no less, asserting that it was abler than the C.P.R., the C.N.R. and the banks, and assuring the sceptical electors that all their representatives in this House (all the party men at least, but not the independents) had always acted solely in the public interest.

PARTY POLITICS thus found a mighty and a convincing voice, a voice which came close to sobs as it pictured the departed glory of those days when party politicians were with honor in the land. As for those who advocated a truce to party politics, Mr. Maitland held them in a magnificent contempt. They just didn't know and, not knowing, they just derided, derided and insulted the men who labored day and night not for self but for the public. Indeed, in the hands of Mr. Maitland the critical newspapers began to appear responsible for everything, for the entire crisis of these times, almost for the tragedy of this House which, in private, even in cabinet, thinks conditions are intolerable but which, in public, cries peace where there is none.

ANYWAY, AFTER Mr. Maitland had boldly defied the gods to throw out the present House of party politicians and put in another of non-party ones and see what disaster would follow—after these lofty and poetic assests it was comforting to come down to Mr. Hanna's simple prose. Mr. Hanna had none of these impassioned defences to offer for being a party man or for being in the House. He simply liked politics, a blunt statement which was complete and unanswerable, and even though redistribution put him out of the House the future looked rosy. Some day, perhaps, he would come back and he would not count the country lost even if he didn't.

THIS BARING of the inmost political soul took nearly the whole afternoon for Mr. Manson wanted to proclaim his faith in party politics and Mr. Hayward wanted to be the third Conservative to denounce the redistribution bill. And again in the evening, when the bill came up in committee, its opponents made a last, despairing effort to amend it in committee. Mr. Manson even moved to increase the House to fifty members in order to maintain the old and the new constituencies, but Mr. Hinchliffe said the government had considered the whole problem for a long, long time and, like a wise parent, knew what was best for its young. Whereat Mr. King impaled him neatly by remarking that if the government had known for a long time that Columbia was to be abolished it had acted curiously in spending \$20,000 on a recent by-election there. Anyway, the redistribution bill went through with scarcely a word of explanation or apology for the government. It went through, pretty quietly and rather shamefacedly, with its tail between its legs since it is less of a bill than a blasted hope, and we went to bed.

## RADIUM FIND HERE FORECAST

Good Ground Located on Vancouver Island, Mines Minister Reports

Imminent possibility of radium in commercial quantities being discovered on Vancouver Island was suggested to the Legislature yesterday by Hon. W. A. McKenzie, Minister of Mines, in introducing a new bill amending the Radium Act.

The original bill authorizes the government to pay \$5,000 to anybody discovering radium in commercial quantities and permits the government to take 50 per cent of the radium produced.

The new bill leaves the \$5,000, but reduces the amount the government may take to 10 per cent.

"The department is informed that some good ground has been located on Vancouver Island, that looks very favorable," said the minister. "It is suggested that if the government is to take 50 per cent it will be difficult to get capital for development."

Mr. Pattullo said radium was very valuable, and he had known agreements in the Yukon affecting gold where the owner and the layman had split 50-50. He thought the reduction to 10 per cent was extreme.

The bill was given second reading at the night sitting of the House.

## TREASURY CONTROL PROVIDED FOR

Hon. J. W. Jones Brings Bill Down in Legislature

Treasury control, the device promised in the budget speech for regulating government expenditures, was introduced to the legislature in a bill presented by Hon. J. W. Jones, Finance Minister, late yesterday afternoon.

T. D. Pattullo objected to a bill announced weeks ago, being withheld until the last minute, giving members no time to consider it.

Mr. Jones stated that the bill gave the finance department power to make regulations so that the accountants of all departments would have to keep in close touch with the treasury to the end that expenditures could be limited to the revenue receipts.

Mr. Pattullo's second objection was that the government already had this power under the existing statutes if it cared to exercise that power. But the administration had run wildly spending millions without any proper check. The purchasing agent admitted he had no check on the emergency buying for relief camps and the Minister of Public Works could not say at any given time how much his department owed. This bill gave the government no new power, but would simply create interdepartmental friction, he predicted.

## BROWN APPEALS TO POLITICIANS

Sacrifice of Party Expediency in Relief Crisis Urged By Board of Trade Head

"Animated Solely as a Gravely Concerned Citizen," He Says; Seeks No Office

Canadian Press

Vancouver, April 12.—Following his testimony on Monday before the committee investigating unemployment relief, Harold Brown, president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, has issued the following statement:

"In the light of recent events I wish publicly to pay my respects to the members of the select committee on unemployment and to its able chairman."

"My bitterness was alone directed to the political barrier which prevents the revelations of the true soul and spirit of the country in the terrible crisis which is rapidly intensifying."

"I counsel the government to suspend every vestige of party expediency and take to itself a fusion of able and willing men to consider the financial position of the province and a general scheme of sustenance which will save us from the worst consequences of the present stress amongst a large body of worthy and silently suffering citizens."

"Although it may sound almost like a fairy tale, I should like to say that I have not even half an eye on any passable office, nor have I any self-interest whatever to serve. I am animated solely as a gravely concerned citizen of the province, which I love greatly to help in any way I can as far as my limited capacity will allow in attempting a whole-hearted handling of the situation in true communion of spirit and good fellowship."

## FUEL OIL TAX HELPS LITTLE

Not Enough to Help Coal Mining, Says Alberni Member

Hon. J. W. Jones's amendment to the Fuel Oil Tax Act of 1930 was given second reading in the Legislature yesterday as the minister announced that the Shelly Act was to be proclaimed and brought into effect as soon as the amendments receive royal assent.

The amendments are purely in detail, but he said the 1930 act required every consumer to make a return showing the oil consumed and to pay a half cent a gallon tax thereon. Vendors would be licensed and also compelled to make a return of sales. This avoided the unconstitutional feature of the 1930 act, where the vendors were made collectors of the tax, he contended.

L. A. Hanna said the bill gave preference to some industries against others. Railways had a set off against their right-of-way tax, but the lumber and fishing industry had to pay. The half cent a gallon was no protection to the coal mining industry, he declared, so the measure was simply a device to raise revenue for the government at the expense of basic industries already having a difficult time.



# Seventy New B.C. Acts Are Approved Today

## Long Session of B.C. Legislature Concluded To-day

Usual Boisterous Outburst Marks Prorogation of House This Morning

LIEUT.-GOVERNOR ASSENTS TO BILLS

Members Have Expressed Opinions on Matters Agitating Province

After eight weeks in session, broken by a short recess for Easter, the British Columbia Legislature after passing over seventy pieces of legislation and placing taxes on the statute books which will reach out to every citizen of the province, prorogued this morning. The extra tax of two cents a gallon on gasoline and the changed income tax which will be deducted on every wage cheque issued in the province are left as the most striking reminders of the fourth session of the Tohmie Government.

Lieut.-Governor J. W. Fordham Johnson prorogued the Legislature for the first time. In his speech he said:

"Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly:

"In closing this the fourth session of the Seventeenth Parliament of the Province of British Columbia, it is my desire to express my appreciation of the attention which you have given to the many important questions submitted for your consideration.

"The bill ratifying the agreements with the Dominion and the municipalities respecting the relief of unemployment, and providing further powers for dealing with this important subject, is expected to afford a needed measure of relief during the existing commercial and industrial depression.

"The bill providing for the issuance of provisional free miners' certificates, and the suspension of the requirements as to payment of recording fees in respect of placer-mining claims, is expected to stimulate prospecting and to afford a means of useful employment, as well as development in the mining industry.

"The bill for the relief of mortgagors and purchasers of lands is expected to afford a measure of relief to owners of land who are seriously affected by the present financial conditions.

"The bill respecting petroleum and natural gas is expected to protect the public interest in connection with the development of the petroleum and natural-gas resources of the province.

"The bills amending the 'Bills of Sale Act' and the 'Conditional Sales Act', for the purpose of establishing a system of central registration of liens affecting motor vehicles, is expected to afford an additional means of preventing frauds in connection with dealings in motor vehicles.

"The bill amending the 'Provincial Elections Act' contains provision to facilitate the more frequent revision and correction of provincial voters' lists.

"The bill amending the 'Insurance Act' enacts new provisions respecting automobile insurance, and in connection with amendments enacted to the 'Motor Vehicle Act' provides a needed measure of protection to the public in respect of damages suffered through automobile accidents, and is expected to prevent the use of the highways by irresponsible drivers.

"The bill amending the 'Land Act' is designed to facilitate the disposal of Crown lands by rendering it easier for settlers to acquire such lands.

"The amendments to the 'Municipal Act' are designed to facilitate the conduct of municipal affairs.

"The bill amending the 'Public Schools Act' is intended to extend the

basis of taxation for school purposes in municipal and rural school districts, so as to relieve the burden of taxation on land.

"I trust that these and the various other laws and amendments you have enacted will inure to the welfare of the province.

"I thank you for the supplies so generously granted for the public service.

"In relieving you from your labors, I trust that the blessing of Providence will accompany you to your respective homes."

Prorogation was marked with the usual celebration. As soon as His Honor had left the legislative chamber about noon, after assenting to bills, the veil of dignity was cast aside. Desks were emptied and notes of speeches, order papers, bills and waste-paper baskets were hurled around. Paper fluttered from galleries where pageboys had prepared for the "breaking up" day. It was like a ticker-tape shower from New York skyscrapers when a hero comes to town. Quarrelles were organized in which Conservative and Opposition members strove vainly for harmony, and H. F. Kergin, Liberal whip, as usual, rose to the occasion with a variety of parodies inspired by business considered during the session.

Forecasts were made before the Legislature met that this would be the last session of the Tohmie government and before time arrived for another session of Parliament the Conservative Party would have appealed to the country under a new leader. Premier Tohmie shattered one prediction as far as he personally was concerned. Frankly he told the Legislature that he considered the call he had to lead the party at Kamloops when it was in turmoil over the leadership and the subsequent endorsement of his leadership was sufficient justification for him to remain at the head. He announced in very plain terms he intended to stay there until the people of the country indicated they did not want him.

Challenges have been flung across the floor for the government to go to the country at an early date. Opposition members have declared there is a crisis in public affairs and dissatisfaction which call for a new mandate from the people for some government. Government members have not replied to the challenges beyond intimating by interruptions they believe the dissatisfaction exists in the minds of the opposition only.

References to an early election have been met with remarks that it will be a long time yet before an election is held, and to hold one soon would mean the expenditure of thousands of dollars for the satisfaction of the Liberal Party.

Liberals on the other hand have throughout the session spoken of an election before the next session as an assured fact, and with absolute confidence of a change in government.

One interesting subject that has had wide discussion reached the spotlight in the last few days, and members on both sides of the House were of the same opinion regarding it, that is a departure from the party form of government. Briefly the attitude as represented by members who spoke was that while there might be some justification for criticism of the party form of government, no better system had been offered. Party government, they said, carried party responsibility. Non-party governments had been tried in British Columbia before the days of Sir Richard McBride, and their irresponsibility had been demonstrated. Credit was due, they claimed, to the men who had developed Canada under the party system, and to men now for the work and self-sacrifices they made in the interests of public life.

The advocated businessmen's government also found little favor from members who questioned whether enough humanity had been demonstrated in business to warrant the country being turned over to business men, and who also pointed to outstanding examples of administration in business, and business failures to question the ability of business men to run the country.

## MORATORIUM PASSES HOUSE

Legislation on Mortgages Cause of Considerable Debate

Attorney-General Refuses to Widen Bill to Include Interest Payments

Legislation providing for a moratorium on payment of mortgages in British Columbia, subject to approval by the courts, passed the House yesterday, with Attorney-General Pooley refusing to depart from the original lines of the bill to widen it to include interest payments, as suggested by the Vancouver City Council through its solicitor, J. B. Williams.

As finally passed, the bill provides that payment of mortgages now falling due may be suspended subject to approval by the courts. The bill, which is to meet present emergencies, is subject to cancellation by order of the Lieutenant-Governor. It applies to principal only, the only change in the original draft made by Mr. Pooley being one reducing the charge against mortgages for an appeal to the courts from \$25 to \$15.

T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, and William Dick, Conservative, Vancouver, fought for wider relief than the bill provided. They argued many property owners, especially small householders, faced the loss of their property because they could not pay the interest. Some of them were in the breadline, they claimed.

NOT ON TAXES

Other members fought unsuccessfully for a moratorium on taxes or the right of municipalities to grant an amortization. Without it the city was forced to seize property, which they did not desire, for non-payment of taxes.

A. M. Manson, Conservative, Omineca, thought greater discretion should be left to the courts to decide cases on their merits. He was in accord with Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., in claiming a general moratorium would work a great hardship on some mortgagors relying upon interest payments for subsistence.

Mr. Manson drew attention to holders of mortgages who were sixty or sixty-five years of age, and relied upon the payments to take care of them in their declining years. He thought it would have been better if the bill were couched in broad general terms so the courts could decide upon the financial position of both the mortgagor and the mortgagee. There might be cases where the need of the mortgagor was greater than that of the mortgagee.

The moratorium also offered a danger in the case of apartment houses. The mortgagors might take advantage of the moratorium, secure all the revenue they could, let the property depreciate and then drop the property when the mortgage became due.

WOULD WIDEN IT

Mr. Pattullo thought the moratorium should cover not only interest but taxes, if in the opinion of the court, it was desirable. There were many people who could not keep body and soul together who would suffer if they were forced to pay interest. This could be left to the courts.

With the bill in the committee stage, Mr. Manson suggested the moratorium should apply to taxes, giving the cities power to amortize taxes over a period of five years.

Mr. Dick said he had telegrams from forty small real estate firms in favor of the moratorium. Larger real estate firms, over the long distance telephone, had told him they were in favor of the moratorium on principal and taxes for one year but thought interest payments should be made when due. Seven hundred taxpayers were on the breadline in Vancouver, and could not pay the principal, interest or taxes. If the bill went through in the present form it would force the city to confiscate property. He would like to see an act like that of the war years. There

were 1,800 mortgages on Fraser Valley farms and farmers were desperate. It was a pitiful situation in Vancouver, he said, where the "white collar" class were forced to the extremity of taking furniture out of the house piece by piece to get money to live. He would vote against the bill because its scope was not wide enough and in its present form it was an injustice to the people of Vancouver.

Mr. Maitland said he could appreciate Mr. Dick's standpoint, but there was no way of meeting all emergencies. The average citizen did not realize how many small investors had their money in mortgages and could not live without the payments. There had been considerable abuse of the mortgage privilege during the war, with people making no attempt to pay, allowing the property to depreciate, living rent free and then turning it back to the landlord.

FARMERS' VIEWS

J. W. Berry, Conservative, Delta, thought Mr. Dick's picture of the Fraser Valley farmers was a little dark. They had three meals a day and a place to sleep and as no one wanted farms these days there was little danger of foreclosing on mortgages. The farmers desired an unrestricted moratorium for a year. While not inclined to agree with them wholly, he thought the matter could be left to the courts, as were small debts.

Colonel Nelson Spencer, Conservative, Vancouver, thought it was the safest and most satisfactory measure to meet present conditions.

A. Wells Gray, Liberal, New Westminster, said the municipalities would welcome the power to grant a moratorium on taxes rather than be forced to take for non-payment property they did not want.

Mr. Dick pointed to the high mortgage charges and increased interest rate since government bonds were paying 6 1/2 per cent.

T. Kirk, Conservative, Vancouver, thought the bill was fair and reasonable.

J. W. Cornett, Conservative, South Vancouver, thought there should be no moratorium on taxes.

## SWEEPSTAKE MOTION OUT

Under Criminal Code, Province Has No Power, Says Attorney-General

Thomas Uphill Brings Motion Before B.C. Legislature

A brief fight for sweepstakes met with little success in the Legislature yesterday evening. Thomas Uphill, Liberal, Fernie, moved a motion in favor of them. Attorney-General Pooley pointed out sweepstakes came under the Criminal Code and the province had no power in the matter. Then Mr. Speaker Davie ruled Mr. Uphill's motion out of order.

The motion of Mr. Uphill called for approval of the House of the principle of the operation of sweepstakes based on the English turf events under the supervision of a non-partisan board of management to be appointed by the government and responsible to a member of the government to be operated in the province for the purpose of raising funds to give employment, and more particularly the building through Northern British Columbia of highways and that steps be taken to legalize such sweepstake operations under the government.

As soon as Mr. Uphill rose to move the motion printed on the order papers Mr. Pooley protested it was out of order as it asked the House to instruct the government to do something it was prohibited from doing under the Criminal Code.

"We are continually doing these things we should not do and leaving undone those things we ought to do," Mr. Uphill commented. Could not they ask for a change in the Criminal Code Mr. Uphill asked.

The Speaker pointed out the motion did not do this and was out of order.

Mr. Uphill said last summer a sweepstake was carried on in Victoria, tickets for which were sold in Fernie.

The Speaker regretted he could not allow the motion to proceed.



# House Throws Out Chiropractors' Bill

Measure Which Got Majority  
of One on Second Reading  
Rejected in Committee

GOVERNMENT MEMBERS  
CONFLICT ON ISSUE

Twigg Charges Dick With  
Jockeying Bill Out of House

Chiropractors who won a twelve-year battle for independence earlier in the week, when second reading of their bill carried in the Legislature by a majority of one, failed to weather the final round yesterday. With the bill in the committee stage and a smaller representation in the House, it was thrown out by two votes.

Three members who had previously supported them made a change of front and until the next session at any rate the battle is ended with chiropractors in the same uncertain position they were before. As members have pointed out during the debates as long as chiropractors practice without passing examinations they are doing so illegally. In spite of that they have been doing so and there have been no prosecutions.

BY 20 TO 18  
The fate of the bill was sealed in committee of the whole yesterday afternoon when the members of the Legislature voted by 20 to 18 "that the chairman do now leave the chair." A similar motion half an hour earlier had been defeated and it seemed that the bill's successful passage was assured, when the vote suddenly fell.

The measure passed second reading some days ago by 22 to 21 with half a dozen members absent. Since then George S. Pearson, Nanaimo, a supporter of the bill, was called home by his father's death.

When the bill went into committee Thomas King, Columbia, who had voted for the bill on second reading, was appointed to the chair. That meant two votes were gone.

As soon as the committee was called to order William Dick, Vancouver, whose drugless physicians' bill had been defeated by the same government majority as carried the chiropractor bill through second reading, moved that the "chairman do now leave the chair."

Twigg WARNS MEMBERS  
Although the motion is not debatable H. D. Twigg, Victoria, managed to shout that the member was "trying to jockey the bill out of the House by a bit of chicanery unworthy of a member of this House." He warned the members against being tricked.

The Dick motion was defeated by 21 to 16 on the following vote:

For the motion: Dick, Kingston, Berry, Borden, Kirk, Winch, Sutherland, Pattullo, A. M. Manson, MacPherson, Alward, Spencer, Walkem, MacNaughton, Schofield, Beatty.

Against the Motion: Tolmie, Pooley, Jones, Howe, Maitland, Twigg, Hayward, Mitchell, M. Manson, Cornett, Shelly, Atkinson, Loughheed, W. A. McKenzie, Rutledge, Fitzsimmons, Uphill Gray.

Absent: Hanna, Pearson, Lister, Kergin, Heggie, Hinchliffe, Macintosh.

Paired: Bruhn, Gillis.  
The next move was an amendment by Tom Uphill to permit the practice under the bill of "other natural methods of healing" as well as chiropractic. Mr. Twigg pointed out this would simply admit the drugless physicians against whom Mr. Justice Murphy had reported, and against whose right to practice the House had already decided.

A. M. Manson pointed out that Mr. Justice Murphy had been expressly forbidden by the terms of his commission to inquire into the merits of chiropractic as a method of healing and said if one cult was to be licensed the house might as well go the whole way. This was described as illogical by Hon. R. L. Maitland.

On a show of hands the amendment was lost, receiving the support of only A. M. Manson, Gray, MacPherson, Pattullo, Uphill, Kirk, Berry, Dick and Beatty.

There was a vote on the section which sets up the chiropractic board, but it also passed by 17 to 14.

## FATAL DIVISION

An amendment by J. H. Beatty to admit all chiropractors who had practiced for fifteen years gained only ten votes and was lost. The other sections had all been approved and the final motion to report the bill to the House was just about to be put when Mr. Manson interposed with another motion that the chairman do now leave the chair, the same motion as that put earlier by William Dick. On this vote Hon. J. W. Jones was absent, Messrs. Kergin and Hanna had returned to the House, and Messrs. Fitzsimmons and Mitchell voted "yes" instead of "no" as on the Dick motion.

The division was, therefore, as follows: For the motion: Dick, Kingston, Berry, Borden, Kirk, Winch, Kergin, Sutherland, Pattullo, A. M. Manson, Fitzsimmons, Hanna, MacPherson, Alward, Spencer, Walkem, Mitchell, MacNaughton, Schofield, Beatty.

Against the motion: Tolmie, Pooley, Howe, Maitland, Twigg, Hayward, Cornett, Shelly, Atkinson, Loughheed, W. A. McKenzie, Loutet, Carson, R. Mackenzie, Rutledge, Uphill, Gray.

Absent: Pearson, Lister, Heggie, Macintosh, Jones, Hinchliffe.

Paired: Bruhn and Gillis.  
The change in the situation since second reading was thought to be mainly due to the defeat of the drugless physicians' bill. Supporters of that bill resented the attitude of the cabinet in giving support to one branch of healing and voting against the other. They determined that if the drugless physicians should not be recognized, neither should the chiropractors.

## LAST EFFORT

Mr. Twigg's effort at the evening sitting to restore the bill to the order paper was defeated on formally recorded division on the floor of the House by 20 to 19.

On this last division Thomas King, chairman in committee during the afternoon, voted for the bill, as he had done on second reading. Hon. W. J. Jones, who was absent in the afternoon was present at night to vote for the bill, but his vote was offset by the absence of Hon. W. A. McKenzie.

William Dick, who had voted against the bill in the afternoon was away at night and George Heggie, who was absent in the afternoon voted against the bill at the evening sitting.

The actual division on the evening vote was:

To restore the bill: Loutet, Carson, R. Mackenzie, Rutledge, Uphill, King, Gray, Hayward, Twigg, Maitland, Howe, Jones, Tolmie, Pooley, M. Manson, Cornett, Shelly, Atkinson, Loughheed.

Against the bill: Fitzsimmons, MacPherson, Kingston, Berry, Borden, Kirk, Winch, Kergin, Sutherland, Pattullo, A. M. Manson, Alward, Heggie, Spencer, Walkem, Mitchell, MacNaughton, Schofield and Beatty.

Absent: Pearson, Gillis, Dick, Lister, Hinchliffe, Macintosh, Bruhn and W. A. McKenzie.

In the argument over procedure for restoring the bill to the order paper, Mr. Twigg at one time threatened to appeal to the chair, but when he was reminded that he was himself the deputy speaker he bowed to the decision requiring him to give notice. Mr. Pattullo objected to any attempt to use the majority force of the House for the purpose of violating its own rules, but Mr. Speaker Davis found a formula by which Mr. Twigg could bring about his desired vote without testing the rules of procedure.

## A GUESSING CONTEST

To the Editor:—On the front page of the morning newspaper there is an account of the reactions of the government members to the popular opinions expressed by Mr. Harold Brown of Vancouver. His statements are branded as "untrue," "scandalous," "unwarranted" and "inexcusable."

The following paragraph is copied from the last page of the same newspaper: "They are quite sufficient unto themselves. They are loyal to each other and stick together and seem to delight in making other people dislike them as much as possible. So in times of trouble they have only each other

to turn to. This has made them very cunning and snarling."

Do not imagine that this is taken from a description of the government. Can you guess who are described?

R. P. MATHESON.  
397 Constance Avenue, Squamish, B.C., April 13, 1932.

# COMPENSATION ACT CHANGES

No Provision Made to Retire  
Winn From Chairmanship  
For Twigg

Merit Rating System Introduced to Meet Logging Industry Complaints

Amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act to meet the recent dispute between the board and the logging industry were passed by the Legislature yesterday. The bill introduced by Attorney-General Pooley made no provision for the reported change in the personnel of the board, under which it was stated H. D. Twigg would replace E. S. Winn, K.C., as chairman.

The chief amendments provide:

For establishment of the merit rating system among individual firms, whereunder assessments will be based on the degree of responsibility for accidents.

For examination of the reserve fund by a qualified actuary to see if the fund is in proper proportions.

For charging interest on deficiencies in assessments arising from a firm underestimating its payroll.

For charging a careless firm with the cost of inspection of its plant from a safety standpoint.

Other amendments permit the board to invest its funds in securities of the Greater Vancouver Water Board, to pay medical aid in the case of an accident where the workman is absent less than three days and hence not compensable, and to charge interest where money is borrowed from one fund to support another fund.

## FOR LOGGING INDUSTRY

The merit-rating system, Attorney-General Pooley stated, arose from the difficulties experienced in the logging industry.

The actuarial inspection, he said, was deemed advisable due to the fact the fund was considered to be on a very conservative basis and might contain more than necessary to fulfill the obligations against it. If these should prove to be a surplus he said it was only right that this should be divided among the industries in these stressful times as an abatement of assessments.

Some firms had been found to underestimate their payrolls in the returns they were required to send in annually, said Mr. Pooley, and it was sometimes many months before the board's auditors detected the shortage. The imposition of interest is a penalty.

Another amendment is designed to modify the impact of the extra assessments which it was found necessary to impose on the logging industry due to the deficiency which had developed in that industry's fund. This year the assessment was 9½ per cent, and it is proposed that the board may have power to spread the collection of this assessment over a term of years.

Mr. Pooley stated that the board had asked for and approved all the amendments, and denied that there was anything in the bill tending towards alteration of the personnel.

Tom Uphill urged the need for amendments to take care of two classes. People working for mere subsistence on relief were the same as other workers, entitled to compensation only up to 62½ per cent of their average wages. This was less than a livable income and he suggested there should be a minimum of \$25 a week.

He also stated that where a pensioned widow died the allowance for the children ceased when they became sixteen, whereas if the widow lived the pension continued to her death or remarriage. This interfered with the education of the children, and he suggested the allowance should be continued to a higher age when both parents were dead.

He commended the Attorney-General for getting after the loggers, whom he accused of negligence in safety matters. Hon. N. S. Loughheed claimed the logging industry had spent more than any other to protect the lives of its employees. Mr. Pooley assured Dr. H. C. Winch that the result of the actuarial survey would undoubtedly appear in the next year's annual report of the board.

Before the Redistribution Bill passed final reading, T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, registered a final protest. The change for the reductions of one member was not justified, he said. Alberni and Nanaimo, with no community interests, had been joined. The same applied to Revelstoke and Columbia. Columbia he thought had been wiped out as a measure of retaliation for electing a Liberal at the by-election.

Before the Saving and Loans Bill passed final reading Attorney-General Pooley announced that he had agreed to A. M. Manson's request and extended by three months the time loan associations would have to rehabilitate their guarantee funds.

The Fuel Oil Bill was given third reading without comments.

Mr. Pattullo again questioned the advisability of reducing the royalty from 50 per cent to 10 per cent in the case of radium discovery. Encouraging reports had been received from Quadra Island, Hon. W. A. McKenzie, Minister of Mines, reported.

The bill transferring a portion of social service costs to municipalities passed final reading, with opposition members failing in their appeal to have redrafted a section which might be interpreted to mean the charge on the municipalities was retroactive.

Amendments to the income tax moved before the final reading exempted war pensions, mother pensions, old-age pensions and Dominion pensions. The exemption of \$500 for married persons was added to read "whose wives or husbands reside in Canada." This, Hon. J. W. Jones explained, was to make Orientals whose wives resided in the Orient taxable. Exemptions were also made of income given to charity up to 5 per cent of a person's income.

Before final reading was given to the bill placing a portion of social service costs on to municipalities Mr. Pattullo, a section of the bill left the way open for the government to cut the anticipated grant of municipalities if the collections did not come up to expectations. This was not the intention Mr. Jones declared.

# Across The Bay

The dying day of this session proves strenuous—with the usual ramblings-through—and some notable swallowings-up—and a lot of strange work at the crossroads—but everything is finished at last in the old style.

By H. B. W.

THE OLD, old miracle, the somewhat threadbare and disreputable miracle, was performed again in the old, old style on Tuesday. All the accumulated business of the session, left until the very last minute, was rammed through so that the House could close, as arranged, to-day. Business which would have taken weeks earlier in the session disappeared into the hungry maw of a homesick Legislature as rapidly and as well-masticated as peanuts into an elephant. Like a tornado we swept through the order paper and left it clean of everything but two little bills which the government had introduced, which no one had understood and which were left to die, unhonored and unsung, on the journals of the House. Add to that some extraordinary goings-on over the chiropractors' bill, some weird divisions and some incredible self-swallowings, and you had a hard dying day for this fourth session of the Seventeenth Legislature.

THERE WAS a brief ray of sunshine as the day opened, to be succeeded by a diurnal hour. The ray of sunshine was the distribution of seasonal indemnities in neat envelopes to all hon. members, which was taken as a sure sign that, having earned our pay and having no hope of more, we would go home without further delay. This expectation proved sound. The diurnal hour which followed was devoted to the decesses of the chiropractors' bill by the good old-fashioned method of waiting until just the right members were present and then springing a vote.



IT WAS NOT that the full House was necessarily against the chiropractors' bill. On the contrary, the House had affirmed its support of the measure on second reading by a formal division. But since then some members had gone home, others were away, and three had changed their minds. That is the way things are done in this game. A member absent, one or two changing their minds and no one can foresee the fate of the largest issue. No one could have foreseen on Tuesday, for instance, no one would have believed it possible that Mr. Manson would be leading a stout band of Conservatives and, in actual fact, defeating the government. A spectacle to delight the gods indeed.

THE CHIROPRACTORS' BILL, you must understand, was not a government measure, but it had the support of every cabinet member and the active advocacy of the Prime Minister. But that could not save it against the skilfully-organized group opposing it. The first move to kill it came as soon as the bill reached committee but it was premature. Mr. Dick, who had supported it before, moved to reject it because, having witnessed the slaughter of his drugless healers' bill, he was frankly out for a poetic revenge. He got it. But not just then. His motion was put and turned down.

BUT THERE were more experienced tacticians than Mr. Dick at work. Their first success came with the appointment of Mr. King of Columbia, as chairman of the House in committee. As Mr. Speaker admitted, no one wanted to preside. All the usual chairmen refused to act, since they wanted to vote. Mr. King, being the youngest member, could hardly refuse. He took the chair and thereby lost his chance of voting for the bill as he had done before. Anyway, Mr. King did very well and it made us feel rather badly that, as his constituency is being wiped out, we shall not see him in the chair very often again.

AFTER THE first division reaffirming the bill, its enemies watched its progress through committee with eagle eyes. There were comings and goings. Empty seats filled. It looked as if something were about to happen. All of a sudden it did. Mr. Manson, chief enemy of chiropractors, had taken charge. Those who are opposed to chiropractors could not have chosen a better leader.

SO MR. MANSON moved, as Mr. Dick had done, that the committee rise, which is the parliamentary way of inserting an axe into the skull of any parliamentary measure. Again the House divided. Again Mr. King counted noses and the chiropractors' bill was killed. Who, we asked ourselves, had killed cock robin? Mr. Dick could claim some of the credit but he had to share it with Capt. Fitzsimmons and Mr. Michell. They, indeed, had rendered up a higher kind of devotion by actually voting two different ways in one afternoon—for the bill on the first vote and against it on the second. And the government found itself on the losing side, its entire plan foiled by Mr. Manson and the entire result of Mr. Justice Murphy's royal commission utterly destroyed. The loss of a desired piece of legislation was bad enough, but to be stood on one's parliamentary head by Mr. Manson—that, indeed, was the unkindest cut of all. But when the larger issues of the day can be settled by the chance attendance of the House and the changing minds of two or three rural statesmen, there is nothing to be done about it and the government did just that.

SUCH A FIERCE passion had been engendered by the chiropractors' bill, such an animosity between friends and such a curious union between enemies, that no one had much heart for the rest of the afternoon's grist of business, the final grim details of the dying hours. Everybody wanted to go out in the corridors and there crowd over the great victory or say violent things about the slick and odorous means of its accomplishment.

AFTER THAT we fairly raced along through the remaining business of the session and by dinner time the Premier said he was ready to wind it up before dawn and bring the Lieutenant-Governor down for prorogation on the morrow.

SO IT TURNED out. In the evening we continued to race along after a last desperate attempt to revive the chiropractors' bill. This was launched by Mr. Twigg who, after another wrangle with Mr. Manson, finally forced the third division of the day, which took a lot of forcing. Once more every man voted according to the faith in him and once more the chiropractors' bill was rejected this time by a single vote. And once more no one knew what the full House thought of the measure for never once in its hectic ride through this session has the full House voted on it. Alas, we shall never know the real wishes of the assembly, but such is the fate of bills which do not enjoy the formal backing of the government. They must take their chance and if their friends happen to be away at the critical moment, it is just too bad for them. Anyway, every chiropractor in British Columbia is practicing illegally, the House has refused to legalize this practice and now, to be logical in their determination to protect public health, those who killed the chiropractors' bill will have to enforce the law, as it stands.

THESE MATTERS BEING settled by the simple process of making them more unsettled than ever, the House came at last, in the hours of the session's last agonies, to the question of unemployment. By this time of night no one wanted to make long speeches on unemployment. The government was content with whatever vindication it gets in the public eye from the recent investigation and the Opposition was content to make a final gesture of disgust. But still, it took quite a while.

MR. MANSON MADE an exhaustive attack on the unemployment inquiry, called it a travesty and urged the government to forget the politics which had bedeviled unemployment administration to date. Mr. King made a fighting denial of profit from unemployment contracts and after talking in detail of bacon prices and the cost of canned goods, was assured by the government that he was not accused. Mr. Loutet said the Liberals were playing mere politics and had made it impossible to study the real problems of unemployment. Mr. Berry marveled that the government hadn't made more mistakes. Mr. Pattullo said the inquiry had been a total loss. And in the end, of course, we adopted the unemployment committee's report, endorsed the government and went home to bed, tired but relieved, oh, so relieved, that on the morrow we would go home and stay there for another year. Perhaps the electors shared our feelings.

# Prolonged Debate Stirred By Report On Unemployment

Finding Criticizes Harold Brown, President of Vancouver Trade Board

OPPOSITION CALLS INQUIRY A TRAVESTY

Claim They Were Given No Opportunity to Make Recommendations

In the final business session of the Legislature yesterday evening, H. D. Twigg, chairman of the unemployment relief investigating committee, brought down his report in which he dealt the committee's parting blows to Harold Brown, president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, and managing director of the Union Steamship Company. The report was debated until 2 o'clock this morning.

The report denounced Mr. Brown's criticism as "scandalous and untrue." Accompanying the report as presented by Mr. Twigg were four typewritten volumes containing 1,100 pages of transcript of evidence taken at twenty-two sittings of the committee, and a volume of exhibits. The report itself was a fourteen-page printed blue book signed by Mr. Twigg as chairman.

To the report as it was originally compiled and presented to members last week-end and summarized in The Victoria Daily Times on Monday, there have been added nearly two full printed pages devoted to Mr. Brown. This addition deals with his dramatic appearance before the committee Monday morning when he not only refused to retract his charges made before the Vancouver Real Estate Board that the investigation carried on here by the committee "was a spectacle of shameful evasion and distortion of the truth," where "if anyone told the truth, he would have been crucified," but extended himself into an attack on the committee for its "political atmosphere," and its failure to "relieve our minds of the charge of waste and extravagance in the handling of relief in B.C., in view of the impending tragedy we are facing right now."

REPLIES TO CRITICISM

The inserted section of Mr. Twigg's report dealing with Mr. Brown says: "Your committee, after listening to Mr. Brown's evidence, portions of which are quoted, has come to the conclusion that the statements made by him in regard to the proceedings of the committee are quite unwarranted, either by the facts or by any explanation made by him; and that his criticism that if anyone told the truth they would be crucified, is scandalous and untrue, and so far as it especially refers to civil servants is unjustifiable and extremely regrettable in that these officials are unable to offer any defence."

"Furthermore, your committee is of the opinion that the remarks made by Mr. Brown are inexcusable, in that they were made on the eve of your committee's report and without any knowledge of its contents. Your committee also notes that Mr. Brown refused to give a single instance of 'shameless evasion,' 'distortion of the truth,' or any specific evidence to substantiate his charges."

The report then adds: "Your committee regrets that men in responsible positions should prefer charges of the above character without foundation in fact, thereby holding their province up to ridicule in the eyes of their fellow-Canadians, and trusts that public opinion will demand that the fair name of the province be protected in future by those responsible."

LOUTET DEFENDS BROWN

J. Loutet, a government member of the committee, after the report was presented, made a defence of Mr. Brown on the floor of the House, explaining they were neighbors at home and that he was satisfied any remarks made by him "was not made from a political point of view." He ascribed his attack to the fact "that he feels we are facing a crisis and like a good citizen he is worried because he does not know of any solution," and, also, to the fact that he had been unduly worked up about the unemployment situation by the newspapers.

REPORT SEEN AS PARTIZAN

Opposition members, led by A. M. Manson, Omicinea, attacked the report as aimed only at clearing the government, and pointed out that the Liberal members had had nothing to do with its preparation. They also pointed out that although the report quoted Mr. Brown as saying he had "listened in" to the committee "in the radio sense," no reference was made in the report to Mr. Brown's testimony that he had read the transcript of the evidence and also that his secretary had attended sessions of the committee and reported to him what had been going on.

BRINGS IN REPORT

Mr. Twigg in moving adoption of the report said the investigation had been exhaustive, covering 1,100 pages of evidence. He charged that the opposition members of the committee had not made a single suggestion of any kind to help the relief of unemployment and when the time came to settle on the recommendations only the member for Omicinea had remained in the room and he had made no suggestions.

"I ask members to forget party politics," he said. "These recommendations are on a high plane and represent an earnest effort to help the government alleviate distress. It is impossible for the province to deal with the problem on a grand scale, but the province could assist by schemes that might take the younger men off the streets."

Referring to the evidence he said the statements of government officials could not be challenged.

He outlined a few of the recommendations, such as that the Dominion should take care of transients from other provinces, that a scheme of provision for women unemployed be devised, and that market extension measures be supported. He strongly endorsed the plea of the militia to care for their own unemployed.

GRAVE CRISIS

Mr. Manson said it was regrettable the unemployment problem could not have come before the House in constructive form earlier in the session instead of on the last night.

There was a grave crisis and the public felt the government had not handled it well. The mere fact of the government moving for a committee to investigate its own administration was an admission of this. He conceded it was a difficult problem to evoke criticism but thought the denunciation was so widespread as to warrant assumption there was something wrong.

He recalled that the issue had not developed suddenly. From the 1929 crash onwards history should have warned that the pending deflation would be disorderly and upsetting. Two years ago G. S. Pearson, member for Nanaimo, had pleaded with the government to set up a board of conciliation to harmonize and co-ordinate the efforts of government and industry and labor to grapple with the pending crisis, but the warning had not been heeded.

"A TRAVESTY"

He agreed with businessmen who said the committee had been a travesty. A parliamentary committee was not a good place to investigate the government. Supporters naturally felt bound to defend and it was the function of the opposition to criticize and search.

The Premier's choice of chairman (H. D. Twigg) had not been a happy one to invite co-operation, for there had always been friction on committees over which he presided.

The opposition witnesses been called in a Liberal position had disclosed that Mr. Manson had been made to do other with the document statement. Then it went into farming although the settlement for a built and a soul had preposterous in a province. The Minister had not later of a few weeks were money. "Is it was a w. Men no camp at thereby b OTTAWA Senator Stevens pressing a belief that the competent the major governments should have relations. There the municipality held. He agreed board of got now counsel a had not a query but "The whole before at he said, With the report was compounded by adjournment been called construct made. "We w the past work out the government, but unity." night we prepared committee was passed reading it. ADDITION the report committee tabled in the House was. He made specific claim the relief privately with criticism contractors lend them at agreed accepted. I ment his hands of. "It is side could handling to brass DENIES Answer son that unemployment Pooley make but the charged general member orders for of goods the Legislature. But not of the report was a committee. report was in after I. Thomas the merchant claimed been men to workmen where they had secured Dominion he had Mr. Low ment the



The opposition had asked for many witnesses and only one of them, had been called, an official of the Dominion government unknown to the Liberal members. He had given his evidence courteously, had even been reluctant on account of the difficult position he was in, but his evidence had disclosed a want of harmony between the two governments. This witness had not been treated fairly, said Mr. Manson.

An attitude of severity towards him had been adopted and every effort made to discredit him. Behind his back other witnesses had been called to contradict his statements and he had been denied the right to return and produce documentary evidence in support of his statements.

#### MATTERS OVERLOOKED

Then there were many matters not gone into. He knew of one camp in a farming district built to hold 100 men. Although officials, by drumming up the settlers, had been able to find only forty to enter it. Camps had been built and supplies shipped in, but not a soul had ever gone into them. It was preposterous to have built 237 camps in a province the size of B.C. No other province had more than twenty-six.

The Minister of Public Works had set out to take care of 60,000 men, but had not kept in touch with the Minister of Finance, whose office was only a few yards away from his own, and two weeks after he had begun work the jobs were closed down for want of money.

"Is it unfair criticism to say there was a want of co-operation between the ministers?"

Men not in need had been taken into camp and other needy cases had thereby been shut out.

#### OTTAWA CRITICISM OF B.C.

Senator A. D. McRae and Hon. H. H. Stevens had written public letters expressing sentiments indicating their belief that the B.C. Government was incompetent. For these strained relations the major fault lay on the provincial government. Somebody in authority should have insisted on harmonious relations being worked out.

There had also been friction with the municipalities due to accounts being held up for four and five months.

He agreed with the president of the board of trade that the committee had got nowhere and charged that the

counsel appointed by the government had not been chosen to assist the inquiry but to defend the government. "The whole proceedings were a defence before any accusation could be made," he said.

With regard to the preparation of the report he said after the evidence was completed the committee had been adjourned and the opposition had not been called into conference as to what constructive suggestions should be made.

"We would have been willing to let the past take care of itself and to help work out something that would assist the government to handle this problem, but we were not given the opportunity," said Mr. Manson. "On Friday night we were given a draft report prepared not on the instructions of the committee and on Monday morning it was passed page by page without even reading it."

#### ADDITIONS

Additions had then been made to the report without referring to the committee and the printed report was tabled in the House without Opposition members even seeing it until the House was sitting.

He made reference to a number of specific cases of men being required to join the Conservative Association to get relief and offered to give the names privately to the Premier, and concluded with criticism because the offers of the contractors and lumber association to lend their equipment and sell lumber at agreed low prices had not been accepted. He claimed, also, that employment should have been left in the hands of the district engineers.

"It is time the government took outside counsel, eliminated politics in handling this problem and got down to brass tacks," he concluded.

#### DENIES PATRONAGE

Answering the charge of Mr. Manson that politics had been rampant in unemployment relief, Attorney-General Pooley said it was a charge easy to make but hard to prove. To confront the charge he said that a present Liberal member of the House had received orders for thousands of dollars' worth of goods before he had been elected to the Legislature. As far as Liberal members not being present at the drafting of the report, Mr. Pooley said in 1917 he was a member of the P.G.E. committee. He was not present when the report was drafted and was not called in after it was drafted.

Thomas King, Liberal, Columbia, as the merchant referred to by Mr. Pooley, claimed the \$1,600 order which had been mentioned was for goods supplied to workmen who made their purchases where they pleased. Other orders he had secured, most of them from the Dominion Government, were because he had been the lowest tenderer.

Mr. Loutet said Mr. Manson's statement that people of British Columbia

were alarmed was correct, but Mr. Manson failed to state that was because no refutation of the rumors which had caused the alarm had come out. He declared the Liberal critics of the committee had the most marvelous hindsight when it came to dealing with the question now.

#### HEADLINES

"In spite of what has been said, I and other members of the committee did not hesitate to ask questions to bring out the facts," he said. As for the request of Liberal members of the committee for the files to be brought before the committee, he said the Liberal members really did not want the files, which were bulky and consisted of many thousands of vouchers, but only wanted to get headlines.

Dealing with H. H. McGeough, federal director of relief, Mr. Loutet declared he was very anxious to give evidence damming the provincial government.

He said Mr. McGeough could not have been recalled because in the meantime he had gone on to Ottawa. The request for the Public Works engineers to be brought before the committee was futile, he thought, as they were not in charge of the work, anyhow.

#### ALARMING REPORTS

Criticisms of the provincial government voiced by Hon. H. H. Stevens and Senator A. D. McRae were explained on the ground that these two men were thousands of miles away in the east and were getting alarming reports from enemies of the British Columbia Government here. Mr. McGeough was responsible for many of these rumors, but Ottawa did not know that he had made a dead set against this government.

Mr. Loutet blamed the newspapers of Vancouver particularly for the condition of public opinion as regards the relief situation.

"These newspapers have not been anything of a help in the situation," Mr. Loutet went on. "They have undermined public opinion and it is no wonder the public is in such a state of mind at present. The result is that no matter what would be presented now, the public would be doubtful as to whether it was the truth."

#### BROWN NOT POLITICAL

"I am satisfied any remark made by Mr. Harold Brown was not made from a political point of view. He is so worried about the situation and by what he has seen in the newspapers that he feels we are facing a crisis, and like a good citizen he is worried because he doesn't know of any solution. And if this government doesn't know of a solution, he is willing to condemn it. But he spoke hurriedly and I think he regrets it."

T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, charged although unemployment had

been here four years the House had ignored the suggestions offered by Mr. Pearson, Liberal member for Nanaimo, Pearson at the first session of the present administration. Now some of those recommendations were embodied in the report. He contrasted the Conservatives' handling of the present problem with the Liberals' handling of the problem when 60,000 returned men came to British Columbia. The government of that day co-operated with the municipalities to build 561 houses, started land schemes, a department of industries and did extra public work.

This government realizing that it made a failure in handling unemployment called for an investigation of itself. Government counsel had proved to be counsel for the defence. The inquiry had been blocked in every direction.

The report had not been in the hands of the members of the House until that evening. Now, without knowing what was in it, they were asked to support it.

#### NO OPPORTUNITY

Liberal members had had no opportunity to make recommendations, and in any event in the light of the shameless way the inquiry was conducted, the arrogance of the chairman and the refusal to present evidence, they were not in a position to report. The speaker claimed the report was misrepresentative, particularly in regard to the reference made to the appearance of the president of the Vancouver Board of Trade before the committee. The report was the grossest travesty and full of untruths.

#### PREMIER'S VIEWS

Premier Tolmie said there was no comparison between the returned soldier problem and the present. As far as the land schemes the Leader of the Opposition had referred to, the speaker would bury his head in the sand if he had been responsible for them.

No part of Canada had handled the problem of unemployment better than British Columbia. Conditions were not local but world wide. He claimed the government was helping towards a permanent solution of unemployment by its market extension programme. The speaker paid a tribute to the members of the cabinet unemployment committee, and said instructions had been given that politics should take no part in relief administration.

#### PRAISES CHAIRMAN

The speaker praised the chairman of the committee and the counsel. Mr. Twigg was eminently fair, he said, and was selected because he would not be overridden by opposition members. The members of the committee were just as fine as could be selected in any Legislature in Canada, and were not afraid to frankly report their findings.

J. W. Berry, Conservative, Delta, said it was idle for business men of Vancouver to suggest the government was responsible for the present world-wide situation. While he admitted a feeling of helplessness, he paid tribute to the way in which the cabinet committee had worked and struggled with the problem, and urged that everybody should be fair and charitable. Mr. Berry regretted the remarks the president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, which, he said, would create a bad impression of a businessman's possible worth in public life at a time when consideration was being given to that matter. He also regretted newspaper headlines of the committee proceedings, claiming the sensational features of the proceedings had been overstressed.

Tom Uphill, Labor, Fernie, said it was amazing to hear members admit helplessness. The way to solve the problem was to take over the means of production and use them for the common good.

"But what I want is information from the government as to how they will deal with the problem in the future," he said.

"What is going to be the rate of pay? Is one district going to be favored over others as last year?"

"The government should have some policy. They can no longer say the situation is a sudden one. We have been here two months and should have something definite to take home."

When no minister replied he said it was evident they did not know what they were going to do.

#### MILITIA MEN

Colonel Fred Lister, Conservative, Creston, asked attention be paid to the recommendation that men of the militia be taken care of through their units while they were unemployed.

W. R. Rudledge, Conservative, Burnaby, claimed Liberals entered upon the investigation with the object of making political capital. None of the charges they made had been proved, he claimed.

Hon. W. A. McKenzie said assuming \$600,000 spent on camps was a total loss it would not amount to so heavy a loss as on the Merville land scheme. He charged no constructive suggestions had been offered by opposition members. If a one per cent tax were levied on the wage bill of Canada it would provide \$25,000,000 a year for unemployment relief. He thought B.C. would be first to come back to prosperity, and looked with optimism to the results of the Empire Conference. He also pleaded for support for a B.C. products buying campaign.

Dr. R. W. Alward, Conservative, Fort George, advocated work before direct relief and favored expenditures on

public work which would be of permanent value. He also urged consideration be directed to a Peace River outlet.

#### PRAISE

T. H. Kirk, Conservative, Vancouver, said he considered the camps had been built and conducted in a businesslike manner and that costs were not excessive. He was prepared to go out and defend the government 100 per cent for its handling of the problem.

L. A. Hanna, Liberal, Alberni, said that the unemployment condition had prevailed for several years and was getting worse, and he did not believe more conferences would cure it.

Dr. W. H. Sutherland, Liberal, Revelstoke, contended the public who knew the conditions in their own districts would be the judges whether the enquiry had been wide open. There had been opportunity to check the statements of the government officials.

George Heggie, Conservative, North Okanagan, said he was very much puzzled by "this man Brown," the president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, and suggested the board should muzzle its president.

Colonel Nelson Spencer, Conservative, Vancouver, thought the report proved the government had a clean sheet. Money that had been expended had been expended well, but there was still a problem to face. He thought the government would be well advised to call in any experts it could find to help it shape its future policy on unemployment. Men from every branch of industry should be asked to help. He was in favor of getting rid of the dole as represented by direct relief and getting people at work on productive employment as soon as possible.



# PARTY GOVERNMENT

**H**OWEVER SHARPLY THE LEGISLATURE was divided on most matters which came before it, there was one thing upon which it was very definitely unanimous, and so expressed itself in the closing days of the session and that was the merits of party government. Admittedly the enthusiasm of the advocates of the party system was qualified by the consideration affecting the particular party in office. For some weeks the opposition in the House has been endeavoring to prove that party government as represented by the present administration is a costly failure, that if it shall continue on its present path it will lead the province to disaster, that the only escape from that predicament would be to exchange the party in opposition for the party in office.

On the other hand, the party in office contends that its record has been a sound vindication of the party system, that if the opposition party were in power conditions would not be improved. Judging by the respective records in office of the two sides, however, there can be no question that when the MacLean government went out in 1928 it left the province in a much more comfortable position than it is in now, and that, therefore, it provided a more convincing argument in favor of party government than the present hapless administration has been able to present.

Among the advocates of the abolition of party government are some who vigorously supported the party now in office in the election nearly four years ago. Now that their own party has failed them they want all parties abolished; if they can not vote Conservative "as their fathers and grandfathers did before them" they must not vote Liberal, because by doing so they would be violating a family tradition. Abolish parties, discard the old-time labels and they can vote for anybody without adding a bar sinister to an ancient political escutcheon. They might vote even for a Laborite, if he were not labelled as such, without exposing themselves to a punitive ghostly visitation from some remote ancestor who had planted and consecrated the family political tree in the Tory orchard—or cemetery—as the case might be.

The real practical fact of the matter is that as long as we have representative government we will have political parties, and therefore party administration. This has been proven time and again in Canada and other countries where party differences have been buried in the face of very great public crises. Conservatives and Liberals united to confederate the provinces of Canada, only to fall apart a few years later owing to fundamental cleavages of opinion in respect of important national issues. Nowhere has fusion resulted in the abolition of political parties. On the contrary, wherever it has been tried it has multiplied their number. Conservatives, Liberals and Laborites recently united in the interests of stable government in Great Britain, and by that union created a new party.

Political divisions are as inevitable in our parliamentary institutions as they are in any other organization of society, for the very simple reason that they reflect the divergencies in opinion, outlook and aspirations within the public itself. There always will be reactionaries, moderates and radicals among the electors, and they will insist upon having their own special representatives in Parliament and Legislature.

To abolish the party system as it exists in British Columbia it would be necessary to develop a new party independent of both of the old parties. And it would have to devise and wear a label of its own. Then we would have three parties instead of two. Eventually one of the three would disappear, and we would have a government party and an opposition party, just as we have now, no matter what they might call themselves. There will have to be a Prime Minister who is able to assure the Lieutenant-Governor that his ministry can command a majority of the House in support of the policies on which they were elected. This means a party organization within the House; it means, too, that the opponents of the government will also develop a party organization within the House. And there you are.

# THE SESSION

**T**HE SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE which came to an end yesterday will go down in the parliamentary annals of this province as the session in which the people were given their stiffest dose of new direct and indirect taxation—direct as represented by the additional taxes the government itself will collect, and indirect by reason of certain of its financial obligations it has now passed on to the municipalities.

The session has been longer than usual, yet there is no reason why it should not have been at least two weeks shorter. The Leader of the Opposition dispensed with the debate on the Speech from the Throne, and this part of the business of the House was disposed of in two days. But the government was not in readiness to proceed with its legislation, and, after eight weeks, we had the familiar spectacle of important matters being crammed into law in the final hours of the session.

Finance Minister Jones has satisfied himself that he has balanced his budget. Time will prove whether he has done so or not. Revenues from some of the taxes are not likely to bring in the returns he anticipates, while expenditures not provided for, such as unemployment relief and forest protection, are likely to involve another deficit, although we shall hope with the Minister that his hopes are realized.

The financial situation caused industrial leaders of the province to recommend to the government the appointment of a non-partisan commission to investigate British Columbia's financial structure in order that reliable information might be available for the government's guidance. This was an unusual development and implied lack of confidence by provincial commerce and industry in the government's financial administration.

One of the most important problems of the time, of course, is that of unemployment. Through many hours a committee of the Legislature met to investigate this question, and numerous witnesses were examined. Some of the sessions of this body were far from useful or elevating. And a good deal was suppressed by the vote of the government's majority of the committee. The opposition members, for example, were denied certain information in connection with the purchase of machinery by the Department of Public Works. The Dominion government's officer in charge of unemployment relief in British Columbia gave evidence not at all to the liking of the government members, who, in retaliation, dug into his personal affairs and gave him no chance to reply. The Ottawa authorities, however, obviously are satisfied with the manner in which their representative is discharging his duties in this province.

The redistribution bill which made its appearance during the final days of the session was a futile travesty of a very important subject. The other day when Hon. Mr. Hinchliffe assured the House that this bill had received the government's prolonged and careful consideration, the Liberal member for Columbia, Mr. King, whose constituency the measure wipes out, pertinently inquired why, if the government had given such a great deal of consideration to the question, it had spent \$20,000 in a vain attempt to carry a riding that will be no more.

While the government has emerged from the session with shattered prestige, the public will hope it may be possible for Premier Tolmie to take the rest to which he is entitled for the sake of his health. It has been obvious that he has attended to his duties at the Parliament Buildings and put in many hours in the Legislature when he should have been at home. His sense of duty, however, evidently would not permit him to take the fullest advantage of the friendly gesture which Mr. Pattullo made early in the session. The Premier's early and complete recovery is the wish of all.

**A**LTHOUGH some four thousand of the retired Winn, K. inception

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# AN ABLE PUBLIC SERVANT

**A**LTHOUGH NO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEment has been made, there appears to be some foundation for the suggestion that the personnel of the Workmen's Compensation Board is about to undergo a change, the chief one being the retirement, through ill-health, of Mr. E. S. H. Winn, K.C., who has been its chairman since its inception in 1917.

It is fitting at this time to make reference to the service which Mr. Winn has rendered not only to the board itself but to the province in general. It is doubtful whether any branch of governmental machinery in British Columbia has worked as smoothly or as efficiently as the body over which Mr. Winn has presided for the last fifteen years. On numerous occasions in the Legislature he has been the subject of very flattering references from members of both parties. His judicial mind and sense of fairness at the outset enabled him to earn and retain the goodwill of employer and employee alike, while the public at large obviously has felt satisfied that an important administrative body was in capable hands. It is not too much to say, moreover, that if all governments possessed the guiding genius of Mr. Winn, they would not have to battle with so many disturbing squalls.

From one end of the country to the other Mr. Winn is well known for his outstanding ability; and it is no secret that within the last ten years he has had many tempting offers from great industrial establishments, both in Canada and in the United States, but he has always regarded the administration of British Columbia's Workmen's Compensation Act as something of which to be proud, not as a stepping stone to greater material emolument. If poor health decrees that he must take off his harness, he could wish for no more imposing monument to his active career than his success in his present position.

## Across The Bay

We go home in the old, old way, with sentiments of unfeigned devotion—with a song from Mr. Manson—and a blizzard of papers—and as we look back we realize that everything happened as we had expected—contrary to all expectations.

By H. B. W.

**W**ELL, FOR better or for worse, it is over. Our fitful fever of eight weeks to a day has died down at last, the halls of parliament are silent and the floor of parliament is white with the paper debris of dissolution.

**Y**ES, WE wound up this session, which was to have been so different from what it was, in the old, old style. We wound it up with giant red carnations in the buttonholes of the Opposition to indicate its undying revolt against this government, with Mr. Manson's soft tenor singing, as usual, "The Long, Long Trail A-winding," with a blackboard propped up against the wall like a gravestone to record the decease of Columbia, Alberni and Creston.

**O**UR END came quietly, as it always does. All that could be done or said had been done and said up to 2 o'clock in the preceding night. There remained nothing to be done except to receive the Lieutenant-Governor, who came, not as on the opening day with the clank of swords and the clink of spurs, but with two simple officers, looking rather mournful. The Clerk read the list of our seventy odd acts, making us realize for the first time how much work we had done. The House, through Deputy Speaker Twigg (Mr. Speaker being ill) approached His Majesty with sentiments of unfeigned devotion, in the old style. The Lieutenant-Governor, in the old style also, accepted the benevolence of His Majesty's loyal subjects, thanked them for the supply so generously granted, read a little speech and went away. And then, their labors over, hon. members heaved the contents of their desks into the air, Mr. Howe landed a pile of blue books on the head of Mr. Manson, the air was filled with a blizzard of white paper, the House shook hands and the janitors went to work.

**A**ND SO, at last we went home, not content with our work, of course (for in this business no one is ever content if he has any intelligence at all), but at least glad to go. We went home to our constituents, knowing just how glad they would be to receive us—especially those constituents of Columbia, Revelstoke, Creston, Nelson, Nanaimo and Alberni, who through our efforts have lost their electoral entities. We went home and a great peace settled down upon the Legislative Buildings, where a tired cabinet prepared to face desks piled high with the accumulated business of session time.

**A**ND NOW that it is all over, what manner of thing was this fourth session of the Seventeenth Parliament, perhaps its last? Well, it was exactly according to previous calculations in that it was quite incalculable. It was precisely up to expectations in that it did nothing that anyone had expected. It fulfilled perfectly the ancient law of this place in that it fulfilled no law at all.

**I**T WAS supposed to be a wild and woolly session, as fourth sessions of any legislature are supposed to be. It was supposed to produce the fiercest rows in modern times since times were hard, members were grumpy, there were plenty of room for complaint and there might be an election within the year. But, as you have seen, nothing of the sort occurred. This fourth session of the Seventeenth Parliament has been the tamest and the dullest within memory. There was constant wrangling, much bad temper, but nothing serious, no great surprises.

**T**HERE WAS even a notable lack of oratory. One recalls, indeed, only two speeches which stood out as remarkable in the least, Mr. Manson's address on the budget and Mr. Maitland's address on party politics. (Mr. Jones's budget speech, of course, is not classed as a speech, but as a matter of business.)

**I**T IS HARDLY probable that the speaking ability of this assembly has suddenly declined within the space of a year, but there was an instinctive feeling on all sides that oratory was no use on such an occasion, that the public wouldn't appreciate speaking when it demanded action, and that even if we couldn't give it action, we had better not aggravate it by supplying oratory instead. Mr. Pattullo's strategy was sound in the main and a remarkable evidence of self-control. Probably he is the first Opposition Leader who, expecting an early election (as Mr. Pattullo half expects), has not torn a political passion in tatters. Probably he sensed that the public wasn't in the mood for anything of the sort, that nothing was to be gained politically or otherwise by prolonging the session. It was a fairly long session, but that was certainly not the fault of the Opposition. It was assuredly the fault of the government, which was even later than most governments in bringing down its business. We didn't begin to do anything worth while, in fact, until about three weeks ago, and most of our work was accomplished in the last ten days.

**A**S FOR the accomplishments of this session opinions will vary, but after everything else has been forgotten the Jones budget will remain as a monumental feat or a total loss, according to your view of such things. To Mr. Jones, unquestionably, to him personally and individually, goes the lion's share of whatever credit the budget produced. The budget was by no means perfect, most likely it won't balance by a long way, and it increases the burden of government on nearly everybody, but even to get as far as he

did against the existing odds (and no one on the outside can realize what formidable odds they were) was a remarkable feat for Mr. Jones. The tragedy of our financial life, indeed, is that Mr. Jones didn't accomplish it about four years ago, that we didn't start to economize until we had spent ourselves into poverty and loaded our children down with debt unto the second and third generation.

**A**PART FROM the budget there wasn't much. On the larger economic issues we did nothing, which was in accord with ancient practice, for this Legislature feels its own complete impotence in the face of world conditions. As for unemployment, all we could do was boldly proclaim ourselves against it on principle, and urge, as a solution, that the country embark on a period of prosperity.

**A**ND SO the Legislature has gone home. We wonder if it will ever come back again. Assuredly if there is an election this year (which means if the P.G.E. is sold this year) a lot of it won't come back. No one knows this better than the Legislature. There was an unmistakable touch of mortality over the whole House as it went home, the sorrowful knowledge that it might be parting for the last time, which was all the more sorrowful because, despite all the troubles of these days, there is a more friendly feeling between members, a stronger sympathy than ever. In the common crisis, in the common public disrespect for politics, there is a new bond between parties, a feeling that all politicians of all parties must stand together against the common enemy. We may quarrel over details, we may say hard things about one another, but in defence of our right to say them, in defence of the system itself, we are as one man.

**T**HE HOUSE was genuinely sorry to bid itself farewell. It knew that if an election came this year it would suffer fearful casualties, whatever the result of the poll in terms of party. Indeed, the complete humility of most private members, the utter resignation, the frank admission that they can never be elected again, is quite touching. And as most of them are good fellows, as most of them are just as good fellows as those who will replace them, as this House, by and large, is a cross-section of the entire public, no better, no worse than any House we are likely to get, we were sorry to bid them farewell. But we cheered ourselves up with the thought that most likely our fears were exaggerated, most likely there would be no election and they would all be back again ten months from now. And this thought plunged us once more into deepest gloom.



**A P R**

**1932**

# GALLERY JOTTINGS

By J. Edward Norcross

VICTORIA, April 1.—The House played a double-header on Thursday afternoon, not only advancing a number of bills but passing a large part of the estimates of the Department of Education.

This was to avoid sitting again in the evening, which would have conflicted with a ministerial dinner party.

Mr. Manson grieved much over the callousness of those responsible for shutting off the business of the House on this account, the member for Omineca pointing out that it meant keeping up-country members still longer from their families, whom they had not seen for weeks and weeks.

Business moved along smoothly during the first hour or so.

The House having recommended to the printing committee that the printing committee recommend to the House that the report on State Health Insurance be printed, the committee so recommended and the House was pleased to ratify.

## Silver Stabilization

Captain Fitzsimmons moved a long resolution on silver full of "whereases."

The sum and substance of this was that the House urge the Dominion Government to instruct the Canadian representatives at the Imperial Economic Conference to move for the discussion of the stabilization of silver, with a view to the appointment of an international commission to consider the matter further.

If only silver could be brought up to a value of 60 cents, he said, the Slocon would flourish amazingly.

He suggested that it would help to bring this about if silver currency were substituted for dollar bills.

Messrs. Lister and Kergin said it would be rather a nice thing for the House to pass the resolution unanimously, and, since it committed nobody to anything but the view that the silver question should be discussed at a distance of 3000 miles, the House graciously complied.

The House would do a little thing like that for Captain Fitzsimmons any time.

## Three Message Bills

Mr. Pooley then fired off three message bills in rapid succession but the Redistribution bill, the only measure of importance outstanding, was not among them.

When second readings were reached Mr. Manson dealt faithfully with the Drugless Physicians' Bill.

He was of the opinion that, instead of special acts for different classes of healers, the Medical Act should be broadened so as to give recognition to all who had any right to it.

Mr. Loutet adjourned debate.

## The Rugged Prospector

Mr. Manson was to the fore again on the Petroleum and Natural Gas Bill.

He paid tribute to the virtues of the rugged prospector and ventured to suspect that the government, while circumscribing his opportunities, was paving the way for a delivery of the oil and gas of the province into the hands of monopolists.

Mr. Hanna adjourned the debate. It is becoming obvious that the Government is going to have some trouble with this bill.

Vancouver's own little bill was brought forward for second reading by Mr. Kirk.

The House was so sure that anything for which Mr. Kirk took any responsibility would be quite all right, that it pushed the bill

through all the remaining stages and stacked it away in readiness for His Honor's signature.

## A Subtle Compliment

It may have been a subtle compliment to Mrs. Paul Smith, chairman of the Vancouver School Board, and Mrs. E. Mahon, her colleague, who had seats on the floor of the House, that when the voting of Supply was resumed, the estimates taken up were those for the Department of Education.

Voting the estimates with Mr. Hinchliffe in charge of them is, for the opposition, something like a game of chess.

They have to look out for traps. Mr. Hanna stepped into one at the outset.

In response to his inquiries it turned out that a returned soldier had been discharged from his position as head of the text-books department and that the minister had appointed his own secretary in his place.

Here then, was a situation—a returned soldier let out to make room for a political friend. At first glance it certainly looked rather juicy.

## Hinchliffe Gloats

But Mr. Hinchliffe was able to give what appeared to be unimpeachable reasons for the only dismissal he had ever made.

Moreover, he had had to rush his own secretary into the job as a matter of emergency.

The secretary had passed the civil service examination and had been approved by the commissioner.

Finally, other employment had been found for the returned soldier. All of which Mr. Hinchliffe told with great glee.

It would not be excessive, indeed, to say that he fairly gloated over the completeness of his reply to Mr. Hanna.

The voting proceeded slowly, for the opposition was inclined to raise questions over each new estimate.

Nor was the work finished when Mr. Pooley discovered that it was time to dress for dinner. The chief bone of contention, the University vote, has still to come.

## Business Done

First reading: Bills amending the Municipal Act, the Bills of Sale Act and the Conditional Sales Act.

Second reading: Bill amending the Greater Vancouver Water District Act.

Reported: Bill amending the Execution Act.

Third reading: Gasoline Tax Bill and bill amending the Vancouver Incorporation Act.

## LIBERALS VOTE 'NO' AS GAS TAX PASSES

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 1.—Good progress was made on bills in the Legislature Thursday. The Gasoline Tax became law with opposition members voicing

a lusty "no." It now awaits only the signature of the Lieutenant Governor.

The curtailed Vancouver Corporation Bill giving powers for short term financing, passed all stages without debate and T. H. Kirk, who piloted it, got a round of applause.

The Greater Vancouver Water District Bill was given second reading.

## Gov't Hears Brown's Land Settlement Plan

A scheme of land settlement which he calls "Rural Community Foundation," has been communicated by Harold Brown, president of Vancouver Board of Trade, to the select committee of the B. C. Legislature on unemployment.

Essential features of the plan are: Settlement of families and some single men on allotments of from 2 to 5 acres in one, two or three selected areas that would ultimately take care of 5000 families.

Each allotment to be given a small family cottage with proper sanitary accommodation, and light and power if within radius of electric supply, to allow of development of small industrial undertakings.

Provision in each area for a "sustenance" farm of sufficient area to balance the whole scheme for the growing of grain, livestock breeding and dairy work.

The basis of the scheme should be wholly co-operative, and the settlement should be governed by an appointed non-political trust composed of, say, an agriculturist, a chartered accountant, two social experts, one of which would be a woman, and a business man of administrative ability and experience.

Such a board, Mr. Brown suggests, would be willing to serve voluntarily, for stated periods at least.

The whole secret of success of such a scheme would lie in the encouragement of the fullest productive energy throughout the community, with a definite profit-sharing plan as an impetus.

The various industries would be complete in themselves. For instance, wheat-growing would be followed by the process of the grain through a grist mill down to baking of the bread for daily use of the community.

If there is a possibility of sheep-raising, there would be a small woollen mill for weaving and making of tweeds and other fabrics. Fruit growing would entail a preserving factory; hog raising would include bacon curing, poultry raising, bee keeping, cheese and butter-making and market gardening would be developed vigorously, all for commercial profit as well as to supply the needs of the settlement.

A section of the work would care for single men, particularly on the farm and in other work incidental to supplying fuel and general maintenance.

"The main principle I have in mind is the preservation of family life and the rescue of the unfortunate element of the population from the spectre of poverty and consequent decadence in physical and health standards. Such a settlement would care for proper education. Recreational facilities are now made easily possible by the radio and selective talking pictures," Mr. Brown explains.

Central vocational training for arts and handicrafts, with technical supervision and instruction in all branches of agricultural and horticulture would be necessary, also a hospital and nursing services.

A co-operative store and central managing bureau would be essentially a community enterprise. Besides the cottages, the physical construction of the settlement would include a community hall, school and industry buildings as required, this giving interesting and constructive work to a large number of prospective tenants of the community whose interest in such work would be cumulative.

As to financing of the scheme, Mr. Brown submits that present costs occasioned by unemployment and destitution are such a drain on government that no effort appears to him too great if it has at its object something of permanent value.

Unemployment, he fears, will not be removed with returning prosperity, as the fundamental conditions of modern life seem to be throwing a greater proportion of people out of line of economic sustenance.

## NATIONAL COST

Therefore, even if such a scheme involved a national cost of two or three million dollars, there would be a great physical property to show for it, and with practical management, he thinks, sufficient productive revenue could be earned to provide for a reasonable basis of taxation, an apportionment of earnings to cover interest and a margin, on a profit sharing plan, in the form of a co-operative

consolidated fund to provide income for clothing and other essentials.

"The vital principle, however, of self-preservation and the maintenance of the rights of citizenship, without the implied degradation of charity and relief should be set above every obstructive objection," Mr. Brown submits.

In submitting his scheme, Mr. Brown says that he agrees with Premier Tolmie in the proposition that selection of approved areas for land settlement offers "the primary solution of the really dangerous features of this growing problem."

## Gov't to Have Free Vote On Healers' Bill

Section Two of Medical Act Amendments, Affecting Chiro, Left in Abeyance

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 1.—One speech on the Drugless Physicians' Bill, deferment of action on the pertinent clause in the Medical Act amendments, and failure of the reprinted Chiropractors' Bill to make its appearance, constituted Thursday's activities of the Legislature dealing with medical legislation.

The report spread in the lobbies, however, that Premier Tolmie intends to give the Government's consent to the Chiropractors' and Drugless Physicians' Bills being allowed to proceed to a free vote of the House, without formally endorsing either measure.

The non-contentious clauses in the Medical Act were approved almost without comment, but section 2 of the Bill, which deletes from the Act the clauses giving the Medical Council control over chiropractors, was not dealt with and the Bill was left in committee until the House has voted on the new Chiropractors' Bill.

## HOUSE UNANIMOUS FOR SILVER PARLEY

VICTORIA, April 1.—Unanimous for once, the Legislature, Thursday, gratified the heart of Capt. James Fitzsimmons, kindly member for Kaslo-Slocan, by adopting with practically no debate his resolution asking the Provincial Government to urge the Imperial Conference to arrange for an international conference on the silver question.

The mover stressed the important part silver mining had played in the development of British Columbia, the present plight of the industry and the desirability of a revival. At a price of 60 cents the mines could go to work again, he said.

## RENTALS OF LIQUOR BOARD TO BE AIRED

VICTORIA, April 1.—Four Liberal members have filed notice of motion for returns of information about purchase or lease of premises for Department of Finance officials, purchase of motor cars and motor boats for Lands and Public Works Department officials, and particulars of all changes of premises, together with rentals for liquor board stores.



## Hinchliffe Drops Plan To 'Control' Trustees

But Private Member Will Bring in Measure Adding to City Councils' Authority

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 1.—Members of the Vancouver School Board delegated to resist the proposal to give city councils control over school board expenses were informed during their stay in the parliament buildings Thursday that the proposal which originally emanated from Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe at a conference of Vancouver and Victoria members and civic representatives is to be brought before the House by a private member, J. H. Beatty, Victoria.

When pressed for an answer as to whether he would support or oppose the measure, Mr. Hinchliffe declined to give the trustees any assurance.

### BEATTY PLANS AMENDMENT

The clause is to be introduced by Mr. Beatty as an amendment to the Public School Act now in committee stage before the House. It will authorize the aldermanic boards to prohibit or restrict school board expenditures on manual training, domestic science, physical education, training of children over 16, etc.

The question came up in the House during discussion of education department estimates in committee of supply Thursday.

Attention was drawn to the reduction of teachers' grants from \$1,800,000 to \$1,400,000, to abolition of the \$17,000 grant for equipment for domestic science, manual training, etc., and to the cut of \$23,000 in the vote for free text-books.

"You are unloading the whole cost to the municipalities," protested T. D. Pattullo.

"Not at all," replied the minister. "The school boards can economize and save the difference."

"Thereby reducing the quality and extent of the educational service," caustically commented Mr. Pattullo.

### CONTROL BY COUNCIL

On the question of manual training Mr. Hinchliffe claimed the department had laid down no policy, but was reminded that he had initiated the suggestion of council control.

"Why have you not laid down a policy? That is the minister's function," declared Mr. Pattullo.

Mr. Hinchliffe said he had accepted Wells Gray's suggestion of a consultation among school trustees, councils and the government.

"The minister is backing and fill-

ing on this issue," said Mr. Pattullo. "Keeping the trustees running to and fro. The matter is settled one day and unsettled the next. This is costing the school boards money."

Mr. Hinchliffe said he had definitely refused to place the school boards under the thumb of the councils, but with regard to technical training and similar features had thrown the matter open for discussion.

### ONSLAUGHT ON MINISTER

A general onslaught upon the Minister for seeking to restrict educational facilities and shift governmental costs on to the shoulders of municipalities evoked a debate on the question of continuing to give free education to children over 16.

"My honorable friend believes nobody over 16 should go to school," said T. D. Pattullo, "whereas under present industrial conditions the demand for education is greater than ever."

"And if those conditions last for two or three years shall we keep these young men in school year after year until they are 19 or 20?" asked Mr. Hinchliffe. "If so we shall have to reorganize the whole system."

"If people want their children to go to school after 16 they should pay for them," argued R. Hayward, Victoria, Conservative.

"What the world needs is more education," said Mr. Pattullo. "Those who are fighting to restrict education are fighting a losing battle."

### "MORE HUMAN WRECKAGE"

A. M. Manson, K.C., argued that the question was whether boys and girls of 16 should be turned out into the streets with no employment available or allowed to continue for a year or two improving their education.

"To turn them loose today simply means making more human wreckage," he contended. "I believe in economizing, but we must have regard to fundamentals. Too much of our crime today is committed by these young people of 16 and 17. It would be fortunate for them and for society if they were kept in school under discipline."

Jack Loutet, North Vancouver, said

he did not believe under present conditions in providing extra accommodation for these over-age children, but commended such work as that of the Canadian Forestry Association in giving occupation to boys and making men of them."

## MORE TROUBLE FOR THE CHIROPRACTORS

Notwithstanding the terms of the Murphy report, under which the chiropractors of British Columbia were to be given control of their own profession, it looks now as if medical opposition and legislative truculence would succeed in preventing the translation of that report into law.

In short, the jockeying and sidestepping that are featuring the presentation of the Chiropractors' Bill in Victoria indicate that all the trouble taken by the chiropractors to establish their rights will go for nothing and that the campaign will have to be started all over again.

The evasive and vacillating attitude of the House in this matter is difficult to understand.

Practically 90 per cent of the people of British Columbia are solidly behind the efforts of the chiropractors to gain control over their profession and to keep that profession clean and worthy.

The Tolmie Government delegated one of the province's fairest and most capable judges to investigate the situation. His report recommended granting the chiropractors what they asked.

Yet in spite of the Murphy report and the public will, the Legislature, inspired or uninspired by medical influence, is impeding the passage of the required legislation in every possible way.

If the situation were not tragic, it would be ridiculous. Certainly it has gone beyond the bounds of toleration.

## The Truth About CHIROPRACTIC

FROM time to time there appear in the public press statements regarding the chiropractic profession which constitute a serious reflection upon the profession itself and the character, efficiency and sincerity of its practitioners. Sometimes these statements are merely inaccurate; sometimes they are so distorted and biased as to be almost malicious; nearly always they reveal an unjustifiable antipathy which is as pronounced as the ignorance of their authors. But, however unworthy of attention these attacks may be, they cannot, in justice to the chiropractic profession and the welfare of the public, be allowed to go unchallenged and unrefuted.

We are keenly sensitive to anything that reflects upon the good name of our profession and no one will be more scathing in his denunciation of it than we, ourselves. Indeed, the very purpose for which we are now seeking legislation for a supervising Board of Chiropractors is to keep out of our ranks any individuals or any practices that might in any way be detrimental to our progress and repute. In the meantime, we contend that the ABUSE OF A GOOD THING IS NO EXCUSE FOR ITS SUPPRESSION OR DISUSE.

One of the charges made against us, as common as it is unjust, is that our schools do not demand a course of training which shall fully qualify us to practise our profession. There are two replies to that charge: The first is to give the curriculum in force in OUR LEADING SCHOOLS. That curriculum is as follows:

Subjects—	Hours
Diagnosis of Internal Diseases.....	300
Physical Diagnosis.....	80
Symptomatology.....	40
Hygiene.....	100
Chemistry, Organic and Physiologic.....	100
Pathology and Bacteriology.....	100
Dissection.....	30
Descriptive Anatomy.....	340
Applied Anatomy.....	150
Neurology.....	340
Histology.....	100
Physiology.....	200
Gynecology.....	120
Chiropractic Orthopedics.....	80
Chiropractic Theory and Philosophy.....	100
Palpitation and Nerve Tracing.....	300
Senior Spinal Examination and Plate Reading.....	100
Adjusting Drill and Clinical Practice.....	300
Instruction in Professional Practice.....	30
Total number of hours.....	2910

The following is a list of standard works used in all colleges:

Diagnosis (Butler, Osler, Hughes); Pathology (McConnell, Delafield and Prudden); Symptomatology (Green); Hygiene and Sanitation (Bergey, Price, Pedersen); Pediatrics (Holt, Rurab); Anatomy (Gray, Piersol, Cunningham); Applied Anatomy (Davis, Wolley); Physiology (Brubaker, Kirk); Physical Diagnosis (Butler, De Costa, Cabot); Technique and Practice (Loban); Gynecology (Skell); Chemistry (Leffman).

At this point we should like to call special attention to the number of hours required in the foregoing curriculum for diagnosis and symptomatology—420 hours in all. NO OTHER SUBJECT IN THE CURRICULUM CALLS FOR SO MUCH INTENSIVE STUDY.

Comparison of the number of hours required of students in the orthodox medical schools with those required in the leading chiropractic schools shows that the former require some 2000 hours more than the latter and at first sight would seem to indicate that the one is much more comprehensive than the other. The difference, however, is largely due to the fact that the medical schools require subjects which the chiropractic student does not need. Prominent among these subjects are General Medicine (600 hours); Surgery and Surgical Diagnosis (500 hours); Pharmacology (105 hours); Advanced Chemistry (180 hours); and Obstetrics (150 hours), which account for some 1890 hours of the difference, minor subjects making up the balance. THE CHIROPRACTOR DOES NOT MAKE USE OF MEDICINES; HE DOES NOT HANDLE OBSTETRICAL CASES AND HE AT ONCE TURNS OVER TO COMPETENT SURGEONS ALL OF HIS CASES REQUIRING SURGICAL TREATMENT.

Recognition of his limitations is as essential to the chiropractor as is his knowledge of the powers of vertebral adjustment.

The second reply to the charge of inadequate chiropractic training is found in the CLINICAL RESULTS OF ITS PRACTITIONERS. What do these results show? What diseases have chiropractors been treating and what success have they met with. These questions are exceedingly important from any point of view for upon their answer chiropractors must stand or fall.

Here is one answer. Some years ago a NATION-WIDE INQUIRY was made in the United States among the chiropractic profession to ascertain results in a number of different types of cases. Almost 500 chiropractors had sufficiently comprehensive office records to be able to furnish data which required that the TYPE OF DISEASE BE PROPERLY ESTABLISHED and that the results be a matter of DEFINITE OBSERVATION. Other cases were classed as failures. The results of this inquiry, which covered nearly 100,000 cases, were as follows:

Disease	Cases Considered	Percentage of Recoveries
Acne.....	1,213	86
Adenoids.....	1,204	75
Appendicitis.....	1,906	89
Arterial Hardening.....	659	66
Arthritis.....	791	56
Bronchitis.....	1,848	91
Bronchial Pneumonia.....	498	93
Catarrh.....	1,957	84
Coryza (severe cold).....	637	95
Chicken pox.....	390	99
Colic.....	326	96
Constipation.....	8,218	85
Cramps.....	587	92
Diarrhoea.....	659	93
Dysentery.....	353	90
Dyspepsia.....	1,684	87
Eneuresis (bed wetting).....	734	72
Epilepsy.....	777	52
Eye troubles.....	1,544	89
Bladder trouble.....	782	80
Gastritis.....	1,626	89
Gout.....	1,199	68
Hay Fever.....	1,392	81
Headaches (chronic).....	1,516	91
Heart troubles.....	171	79
Influenza.....	4,193	97
Kidney Stones.....	179	81
Kidney troubles.....	4,526	85

Laryngitis .....	1,179	93
Lumbago .....	7,298	93
Measles .....	673	96
Migraine .....	1,130	87
Neuralgia .....	2,053	92
Neurasthenia .....	1,902	80
Neuritis .....	3,783	87
Pleurisy .....	966	95
Quinsy .....	610	90
Rheumatism .....	3,040	79
Scarlet Fever .....	149	98
Sciatica .....	2,495	88
Stomach trouble .....	5,341	87
Tonsillitis .....	585	91
Torticollis (stiff neck) .....	2,534	96
Typhoid Fever .....	169	96
Whooping Cough .....	572	95

So much for the charge that chiropractic healing is inadequate. Had it been anything like as ineffective as its opponents claim, such results would have been impossible. And lest there be any who are skeptical of the accuracy or trustworthiness of these results we wish to state here that any REPUTABLE MEMBER OF OUR PROFESSION IS PREPARED TO OPEN HIS RECORDS TO ALL WHO ARE SUFFICIENTLY INTERESTED TO INVESTIGATE THEM. We have nothing to conceal, but much to reveal as far back as 1921, when chiropractic was still in its teens, the Legislature of British Columbia was so favorably impressed with the evidence produced of the efficiency of chiropractic that they passed legislation legalizing its practice in the form of an amendment to the Medical Act.

In regard to the charge that if the proposed legislation (legalizing Board of Chiropractors which shall supervise chiropractic affairs) be made effective it would be avoided, and that any examinations conducted by such a Board would be perfunctory, are these charges based on any known facts? IS ANY CREDIBLE EVIDENCE PRODUCED TO SUBSTANTIATE THEM? Do they rest upon the realities of what Chiropractors have done in the past, or upon assumptions of what they may do in the future? The total absence of such evidence or known facts is sufficient answer to charges that are an unworthy aspersion upon the integrity and sincerity of a body of men who are only seeking an opportunity to give, to the fullest degree, the best of their knowledge and experience to the relief of the sufferings of their fellow-men.

Those who make these charges, either on their own account or at the instigation of interested parties, do not seem to recognize that such charges, unsupported as they are, are far more of a reflection upon their own integrity and sincerity than they are upon those whom they aim to injure or debase in the esteem of the public. Surely, in all common decency they should either SUBSTANTIATE THEIR CHARGES with evidence so definite and conclusive as to command serious consideration and respect, or they should withdraw them. Failing to do either, the conclusion will be justified that their alleged concern for the public welfare is nothing but a smoke-screen thrown out to conceal the real purpose of our assailants.

"There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all argument, and which cannot fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance. That principle is condemnation before investigation."

—Spencer.

BRITISH COLUMBIA CHIROPRACTORS ASSN.

## Relief Probe 'Travesty' Declares T. D. Pattullo

VICTORIA, April 1.—Feelings ran high at this morning's sitting of the Legislative Unemployment Committee when Conservative members, after objecting to Liberal members cross-examining government witnesses, voted that M. H. McGeough, Dominion relief director, should not be recalled to produce documentary evidence in support of his original testimony.

Sidney West, Deroche camp accountant, produced time books to show that only 47 carpenters were on the payroll when McGeough said he saw 104, but A. M. Manson, K.C., counted up over 200 names as receiving \$4 a day or over.

Refusal to permit McGeough to produce a copy of the time sheet he took away on Oct. 17, led T. D. Pattullo and Mr. Manson to describe the investigation as a travesty.

When the time books were produced by West it was noted that certain names had no rate of pay entered in the column for that entry.

**WHY RATES NOT POSTED**

"It may have been considered undesirable to let everybody know what all these people were getting," said Mr. West. "The books were on the table and quite a few people could see them."

Examination showed that Matt Clark, superintendent, got \$6 a day; J. Ladner, storekeeper, \$110 a month. West, himself, \$135 a month, later reduced to \$80, and so on; Dean, head timekeeper, got \$110.

**HIGHER PAY ALLOWED**

West said the highest number of carpenters in that time was 79 on any one day, but blacksmiths and others were paid higher than ordinary rates. He could not say whether the men of \$4 a day and up were selected from the destitute unemployed.

As this evidence came out J. W. Berry and R. W. Rutledge, Conservatives, protested against pursuing this line of enquiry.

"It's just a fishing expedition," said Mr. Rutledge.

G. S. Pearson said the Conservative members seemed only interested in ascertaining whether McGeough told the truth, but he wanted to know whether

the money had been spent to the best advantage to assist the unemployed.

**EX-M.L.A. AND HIS SON**

The witness said John McRae, former Conservative M.L.A., was superintendent of the Agassiz camps, but he could not say whether McRae Jr., his son, also employed, was a registered jobless man.

Demands for recall of McGeough to produce the Deroche time sheet he sent to Ottawa on Oct. 16 led Dr. R. W. Alward to move that McGeough be not recalled.

"We have heard all he had to say," said the conservative member.

**"ARE YOU AFRAID?"**

Mr. Pattullo said McGeough had been attacked in his absence and should be allowed to defend himself. "Are you afraid to recall him?" he asked.

Mr. Manson pointed out that McGeough had been asked for files which were in Ottawa and which he had promised to bring back.

Liberal members also protested against the unfairness of bringing the camp accountant to refute McGeough's evidence instead of the camp superintendent or timekeeper to whom McGeough had referred.

Conservative members, with the chairman's casting vote, carried the motion not to recall McGeough.

## Million Added To Civil Service Pay In Last 4 Years

### Figures Contrasted With Government Plea of "Cutting to the Bone"

By C. N. SENIOR

VICTORIA, April 2.—Announcement by Hon. R. W. Bruhn, Minister of Public Works, that his department was cutting down its personnel in the interests of economy evoked from T. D. Pattullo in the Legislature Friday night a striking contrast in the status of the civil service today and four years ago, before the Toimle Government took office.

Civil service salaries according to the public accounts of 1928-29, totalled \$3,893,291, said Mr. Pattullo. The public accounts tabled at the opening of the present session showed that salaries last year totalled \$4,867,410.

"Practically \$1,000,000 has been added to the civil service since this government took office," he declared. "And this year, notwithstanding the

pious protestations and ejaculations of my honorable friends about economizing and cutting to the bone, we find in the estimates now before us for the coming year that the salaries alone amount to \$4,501,019.

"That, even allowing for the reduction, is an increase of between \$600,000 and \$700,000 from four years ago."

Hon. J. W. Jones tried to shut off the discussion on a point of order.

"This government is always trying to hide things," said Mr. Pattullo. "Why not come out in the open?"

"I take objection; we are hiding nothing," interjected Premier Toimle. "Let's save time by discussing this under the proper heading."

"I bring this up now because the Minister of Public Works says it is necessary to cut down; but that's all right; we can have it again on the Provincial Secretary's estimates," concluded Mr. Pattullo.

### Where the Million Was Spent

In a statement issued last night, Mr. Pattullo quoted the following figures, as the basis of his statements in the Legislature. These are the figures, he stated, which he planned to present before the House. The figures cover salaries paid in various departments of the B.C. Government, 1928 to 1931, and were taken from Government statements.

Department	1931	1930	1929	1928
Legislation .....	\$103,714.94	\$103,981.48	\$104,131.49	\$103,468.16
Premier's office .....	15,647.28	15,382.48	13,169.83	12,662.32
Executive Members—				
W. O. P.—Assistants ..	192.50	232.50	238.12	.....
Agriculture .....	215,658.48	198,678.23	178,451.93	167,765.56
Attorney-General .....	1,095,799.84	1,011,076.57	925,477.39	881,551.96
Education .....	253,662.36	223,663.44	201,475.98	185,268.13
Finance .....	734,129.71	667,948.84	647,861.76	604,977.15
Phieries .....	11,314.80	8,706.77	8,954.77	7,085.38
Labor .....	77,254.08	71,620.50	72,333.02	69,816.74
Lands .....	851,198.45	882,716.26	759,901.30	682,403.76
Mines .....	102,650.02	101,283.66	91,299.54	89,487.01
Provincial Secretary .....	981,125.64	905,932.99	848,458.84	762,800.83
Public Works .....	371,444.11	394,965.56	344,953.52	273,559.15
Railways .....	43,618.20	48,740.04	52,718.09	52,262.76
Totals .....	\$4,867,410.41	\$4,634,923.41	\$4,249,445.58	\$3,893,298.91

## House May Drop Film Quota Bill

### Movie Employees Present Arguments Against Bill; Matter Allowed to Stand

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 2.—Employees in moving picture theatres took a hand Friday in the controversy over the British film quota provided for in the bill now before the Legislature in the name of Attorney General Pooley.

Through A. C. DesBrisay, their counsel, they appealed to the government not to force the bill through the House as any adverse effect it would have on business would rebound to their disadvantage as workers.

Decline in theatre business, due to forcing inferior pictures on the screen or due to public antagonism to what they might regard as propaganda, would lead to lower wages and men being thrown out of employment, it was argued.

The bill came up in the House Friday, but J. W. Cornett, who adjourned the debate a week ago, asked that the matter be allowed to stand further.

As Mr. Cornett is Conservative whip the rumour is prevalent that the government may have decided not to go through with the bill.

## BRIDGE INSPECTED BEFORE P.G.E. CRASH

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 2.—Premier Toimle told the Legislature Friday night that the P. G. E. bridge through which an engine crashed with fatal results on Easter Monday had been inspected by an engineer three days previously and found safe.

It had also been visited by a section man shortly before the accident.

There had evidently been a sudden washout of great violence starting high up in the mountain.



## Liquor Act Changed To Allow 'Dry' Vote on Beer

Prohibitionists Can Call Ballot to Close 'Parlors'; No 1-Man Liquor Board?

**By Sun Staff Correspondent**  
VICTORIA, April 2.—Passage of the Liquor Act amendments through second reading in the Legislature Friday evoked a number of lively incidents and some interesting information.

The bill gives the Government power to have a commission of any number of members from one to three. Asked whether it was the Government's intention to reduce the present number, Attorney General Pooley refused the information.

He announced that plebiscites on opening or closing of beer parlors in particular districts would henceforth require 55 per cent majority to carry.

A new section gives specific authority to hold plebiscites for the closing of beer parlors in any area on petition.

This has a history. Mr. Pooley having refused such plebiscites in the past on the ground that the act allowed only plebiscites to turn a dry district wet.

### ONLY ONE MAN NEEDED

Mr. Manson supported the clause giving power to reduce the number of commissioners, but said the plebiscite clause was unnecessary in view of the existing clauses.

He urged the Government to make a frank statement of its intentions with regard to a one-man commissioner, which, he said, his own administrative experience had proved to be vastly more efficient than a three-man board.

Supporting his contention that the present three-man commission drawing salaries of \$30,000 a year had been a costly and retrogressive step Mr. Manson compared the costs of administration under the present board with the 1929 administrative costs.

Administrative salaries had increased from \$28,000 to \$32,000.

Printing and stationery were up from \$8000 to \$12,000.

Total head office expenses had increased from \$61,000 to \$117,000, an increase of \$56,000, on a declining volume of business.

Administrative costs in 1929 were 4.32 per cent of the turnover, he said, the lowest of any Liquor Board in Canada.

For 1931 the costs were 6.49 per cent, or almost half as much again.

This was a scandalous administration for a board drawing down \$30,000 a year, he declared.

One reason why the printing cost had gone up he said was that the board was printing and broadcasting political propaganda at the expense of the public.

### LEAFLET AT PUBLIC EXPENSE

He exhibited a blue leaflet republishing a Victoria Colonist editorial attacking the present Liquor Board policy.

Mr. Manson said he had every respect for the members of the board, but saw no reason why they should be given unemployment relief at \$7500 a year. "There are altogether too many political friends of this government getting relief at more than \$2 a day," he said.

### "TELL HIM TO KEEP OUT"

H. B. Thomson, the chairman, was criticised for meddling in municipal and provincial politics in behalf of the government.

Mr. Pooley sharply denied that Mr. Thomson's political activities had been directed by the government.

"Then the government should tell him to keep out of such matters," replied Mr. Manson.

## B. C. Loan Of \$7,500,000 Is Forecast

Victoria Hears Taxation Bill Is Being Delayed Owing to Many Protests

**By Sun Staff Correspondent**

VICTORIA, April 2.—Although the taxation bill is still locked up in the finance minister's desk, one of the bills foreshadowed by the budget speech was tabled in the Legislature Friday.

It is the Loan Act and as forecast it provides for borrowing \$7,500,000. Of this \$400,000 is for roads and bridges, chiefly the continued construction of the Big Bend Highway, and \$100,000 for irrigation financing.

The sum of \$7,000,000 is for consolidated revenue. The Finance Minister announced in his budget speech that this was required to pay off deficits. The bill, however, mentions unemployment relief as one of the purposes for which it may be used.

The Taxation Act is being delayed. It is understood, because of revisions prompted by vigorous protests from large industries against the effect of the proposals announced in the budget speech.

Ministers chatting in the corridors Friday questioned that the House could conclude its work by the end of next week, which indicates that there is still a volume of contentious legislation to be tabled.

The refusal of Mainland members to remain Saturday for a meeting of the unemployment committee and even to return Sunday night for a meeting Monday morning is a factor in retarding progress at the present time.

## Gov't Debates B.C. Highway Commission

Hon. R. W. Bruhn Not Certain That Such Body Would Benefit Province

**By Sun Staff Correspondent**

VICTORIA, April 2.—Announcement was made by Hon. R. W. Bruhn, Minister of Public Works, in the Legislature Friday that the Government is considering the question of appointing a Highway Commission. Data is being collected from every state and province to assist in forming an opinion, he said.

While the Minister admitted to G. A. Walkem, M.L.A., Vancouver, that he had spoken favorably of the idea, he said he was far from certain that such a commission would be of benefit to the people of B. C.

"The Minister of Public Works and the Government are elected and are responsible to the people," he said. "Money assigned to a Commission would be spent by a body responsible to nobody. Our engineers are capable men doing good work. Nevertheless the Commission matter is receiving the attention of the Government."

Mr. Walkem read a list of 18 city councils, boards of trade and clubs that had endorsed the idea of a Highway Commission for B. C. and said the Commission in the State of Washington had functioned satisfactorily until abolished by the recent governor.

R. W. Rutledge said if a Highway Commission was no better for B. C.

than the Railway Commission the province wanted no more commissions.

"Look at your freight rates regarding the development of the province," he exclaimed.

## Manson Hits Ministry Of N. Lougheed

Lack of Co-ordination and Poor Judgment in Locating Camps, He Asserts

**By Sun Staff Correspondent**

VICTORIA, April 2.—Trenchant criticism of the public works department by A. M. Manson, K.C., and a vigorous defence of its administration during his regime by Hon. N. S. Lougheed, now minister of lands, characterized the opening phase of consideration of works department estimates in committee of supply by the legislature Friday.

### LACK OF CO-ORDINATION

Mr. Manson made these criticisms:

1. There was lack of co-ordination between finance and works departments allowing almost \$1,000,000 to be spent on camp establishment, when money was not available to provide work after the camps were completed.

2. Permanent camps were built in northern districts as late as October when officials should have known that not more than a week or two of work could be done before winter set in.

3. A camp for 100 men was built in one district with not more than 20 unemployed and only by recruiting efforts were as many as 40 occupants rounded up.

4. As a result of the money being thus spent, thousands were now on the dole who should have been working.

5. Political foremen and party officials were allowed to interfere with the decisions of engineers, at a cost of thousands of dollars in one constituency of which he had personal knowledge.

6. If a reasonable amount of normal road work had been done in the summer there would have been little demand for relief work in country districts during the fall.

Hon. Mr. Lougheed's administration had been visionary and extravagant, spending \$12,000,000 on public works in one year.

Machinery costing \$2,000,000 had been purchased in two years, more than the preceding government had bought in 10 years, and now there was no money to use it.

### SYMPATHY FOR BRUHN

While having every sympathy for Hon. R. W. Bruhn in his present task, Mr. Manson said he had failed in handling the past year's unemployment problem. Nevertheless since he was the minister everybody should co-operate in the public interest.

His own suggestion was that the entire job be placed in the hands of the departmental engineers with such other engineers chosen from the profession as the magnitude of the task required.

The engineers were not politically-minded and if they were given charge the costly political interference would cease.

Tom Uphill supported Mr. Manson's charge that camps had been es-

tablished at impractical sites, mentioning two at an elevation of 4000 feet in the Crow's Nest where heavy snow made work impossible.

Capt. Fitzsimmons believed the work had been handled efficiently without politics, but congratulated Mr. Manson on his offer to co-operate.

### LOUGHEED'S DEFENSE

Mr. Lougheed said the amount of machinery purchased was \$1,690,000 not \$2,000,000 and that, with this new modern equipment, cost of road work had been reduced enormously. The machinery had been requisitioned by the engineers and was all doing good work.

Of the \$13,000,000 spent in one year, he said, \$4,000,000 was for Esquimalt buildings, \$2,000,000 for schools, and only \$4,900,000 was spent on roads. But it was necessary to improve the roads and value was received for every dollar spent. Highway revenue of \$4,500,000 a year was the only source of provincial revenue increasing and when a return was received on the investment the administration could hardly be called a "dream."

## Pooley Faced With Budget Data on Game

House Amused When Atty. Gen. Sets Out to Refute Arguments of Manson

**By Sun Staff Correspondent**

VICTORIA, April 2.—Debate on second reading of the Game Act led to an amusing incident in the Legislature Friday. Attorney-General Pooley found his argument completely destroyed by the statistics contained in Hon. J. W. Jones' budget speech of 1931.

Mr. Pooley set out to refute A. M. Manson's argument that game administration had increased by \$150,000 to \$200,000 since he had taken charge. The statement was wild and extravagant, he said. The cost had been \$220,000 in 1927-8 and \$233,000 last year, an increase of only \$13,000, he claimed.

Mr. Manson produced the printed copy of last year's budget speech by Mr. Jones. He quoted the Finance Minister's analysis of game administration costs as follows:

1922-3 .....	\$70,611
1923-4 .....	39,131
1924-5 .....	55,083
1925-6 .....	76,507
1926-7 .....	76,414
1927-8 .....	73,380
1928-9 .....	84,281

"I know it's awfully embarrassing," said Mr. Manson, "but there it is. My friend was in charge during most of the year when the cost jumped to \$84,000 and last year it had increased according to the figure he just gave the house to \$233,000."

Mr. Pooley obtained a copy of the figures quoted by Mr. Manson, studied them with a puzzled expression, went into a huddle with Mr. Jones and ended up by being completely "flabbergasted."

The bill received second reading after a brief comment on the \$1 tax on fishermen as just another way of taxing the people.

Later Attorney General Pooley came back to the subject of costs, just before adjournment in the evening.

He had looked up the records and claimed the Finance Minister's figures did not include the portion of the cost of game administration borne by the Provincial Police. This item added to Mr. Jones' figure made the total he had quoted.

Dr. Sutherland commented that if Mr. Pooley was now correct Mr. Jones' budget speech must have been wrong.

## GALLERY JOTTINGS

By J. Edward Norcross

VICTORIA, April 2.—It is rather a pity that Mr. Jones was not in the House when, on Friday afternoon, Mr. Hanna of Alberni spoke in the second reading debate on Petroleum and Natural Gas Bill.

For Mr. Hanna had a bright idea that, carried into effect, he felt sure would enable Mr. Jones to pay off the provincial debt.

This was that the Government should exploit J. Edward Norcross the oil and gas of the province itself.

The oil and gas have yet to be located, but that is a mere detail to which the minister of lands can attend any fine day.



The bill lifts the reserve placed some years ago on the oil deposits of the Peace River country.

This was good news to Dr. Alward of Prince George, who saw as a consequence, prosperity just around the filling-station corner.

#### Gruelling Afternoon

It was a gruelling afternoon. The government brought up bill after bill for second reading, flung a lot of new legislation into the House and went on to the estimate of the public works department,

taking full toll of each unforgiving minute right up to 6 o'clock.

Neither side was very accommodating.

Mr. Pooley, speaking to the Government Liquor bill, declined to gratify Mr. Pattullo's pardonable curiosity as to whether the administration meant to carry on with one, two, or three commissioners hereafter.

On the other hand, having begun to take certain skeletons out of the cupboard, he decided in the end to put them back again, and so the House was mercifully saved a reus-citation of political wrangle that dates back over the last ten years or more.

The attorney general contented himself with asserting that the present board was saving the province \$350,000 a year.

#### Manson Attacks

Mr. Manson, who thinks he shortened his life several years during the period that he was responsible for the operation of the Liquor Act, queried Mr. Pooley's demonstration that great savings had been effected, pointing out that administration costs had risen from 4.82 per cent in his time to 6.49 per cent under the present board.

What had Mr. Dick to say about this, asked the member for Omineca, charging that Mr. Dick, "an awfully decent chap and quite a lovable character," raged like a lion about the province but cooed like any suckling dove in the House.

#### Duello With Pooley

Mr. Manson was rather wrong side out all afternoon. When the Liquor Bill had been sent on to committee he had another duello with Mr. Pooley over the Game Bill.

Mr. Pooley complained bitterly that Mr. Manson had maligned him by proclaiming everywhere that the cost of game administration had been increased by \$150,000. It had been \$220,411 in Mr. Manson's last year, he said, while for 1931-32 it was \$233,945, an increase of a mere \$13,000.

Mr. Manson had some figures, too, but he must have got them from another book. They showed that in 1927-28 game administration had cost only \$73,380.

"Where did you get that?" asked Mr. Pooley.

"From Mr. Jones' budget speech of last year, sweetly gurgled Mr. Manson.

It was awfully embarrassing, he added, but Mr. Pooley must settle the matter with the minister of finance.

#### Increase After Increase

"Increase after increase," sighed Mr. Pattullo, alluding to the higher scale of gun licences. "Always taxation and more taxation."

Dr. Winch made a last, lingering protest against charging fishermen \$1 per capita, but Mr. Pooley was adamant and the bill passed second reading.

#### New Bills Flood In

The new bills came flooding in. Mr. Maitland's Barbers' Bill and Mr. Hayward's revised Chiropractors' Bill were read a first time following which a string of message

bills went through the formalities of introduction.

It was now late in the afternoon but the government remorselessly resumed Supply and Mr. Manson spent a pleasant half-hour attacking two ministers at once, the former and present chiefs of the department of public works.

Mr. Loughheed was accused of leaving to Mr. Bruhn the embarrassing heritage of a "dream program" of road construction. This made Mr. Loughheed very indignant for, he said, the "dream program" was in large part the very program the other side had announced during the election campaign.

#### House in Bad Temper

The House was in no better temper after dinner than before. The estimates for public works were up again and before very long Mr. Pattullo was speaking of the "insolence" of Mr. Twigg and Mr. Twigg was replying with a suavity that did not disguise the extremely unpleasant nature of what he had to say.

Mr. Manson accused the government of hiding things and the Premier rose to make a dignified protest, Mr. Pooley assisting.

Captain Fitzsimmons said, "Boys, boys," or words to that effect. The Fathers of Confederation would not so behave. Let both sides drop politics and help the unemployed, he urged. Everybody applauded and harmony was restored.

Not much more was done as the mainland members had to catch the boat.

#### Business Done

First reading: bill amending the Barbers' Act; bill respecting Chiropractors; B. C. Loan Bill; bills amending the Jury Act, and the Agricultural Act.

Second reading: bill respecting Petroleum and Natural Gas; bill amending the Coal and Petroleum Act; bill amending the Government Liquor Act; amendments to bill amending the Government Liquor Act; bills amending the Game Act; Distress Act and Municipal Act.

## Nearly \$2,000,000 For Public Works Projects

### Hon. R. W. Bruhn Announces Estimates Providing \$1,287,000 for Roads

VICTORIA, April 2.—Hon. R. W. Bruhn announced to the Legislature how the Public Works Department appropriation of \$1,956,000 for maintenance of roads, bridges, ferries, wharves, etc., is to be allocated during the coming year. The schedule follows:

District	Allocated	Less Est. Revenue..	200,000
Alberni .....	\$ 35,000	Wharves .....	7,500
Atlin .....	27,000	Surveys .....	2,000
Burnaby .....	12,000	Traffic Operation, Snow	
Cariboo .....	60,000	Removal, etc. ....	30,000
Chilliwack .....	30,000	Contingencies .....	89,500
Columbia .....	34,000		
Comox .....	44,000	Total .....	\$1,956,000
Cowichan-Newcastle .....	36,000		
Cranbrook .....	38,000		
Creston .....	55,000		
Delta .....	28,000		
Dedwney .....	52,000		
Esquimalt .....	52,000		
Ferrie .....	32,000		
Fort George .....	62,000		
Grand Forks-Greenwood ..	42,000		
Islands .....	25,000		
Kamloops .....	45,000		
Kaslo-Slocan .....	55,000		
Lillooet .....	50,000		
Mackenzie .....	32,000		
Nanaimo .....	6,000		
Okanagan, North .....	40,000		
Okanagan, South .....	40,000		
Nelson .....	2,000		
New Westminster .....	2,000		
Omineca .....	46,000		
Peace River .....	30,000		
Prince Rupert .....	20,000		
Revelstoke .....	34,000		
Richmond-Pt. Grey .....	12,000		
Rossland-Trail .....	18,000		
Saanich .....	22,000		
Salmon Arm .....	45,000		
Similkameen .....	40,000		
Skeena .....	40,000		
Vancouver, North .....	8,000		
Yale .....	45,000		
Cariboo Highway .....	21,000		
Less Est. Rev. ....	20,000		
Total Roads .....	1,287,000		
Bridges .....	340,000		
Ferries .....	232,000		

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# Disposal of P.G.E. May Go to House Decision This Week

Road Negotiations Said to Be Near Finality; Bowser Workers Out for Action

Denial from the Tolmie Government, for its own reasons, through party newspapers has in the past followed reports revealing progress in negotiations for disposal of the P. G. E. Similar denial may be anticipated to the following despatch, which, however, sets forth the present status of P. G. E. and other negotiations.—Editor.

By C. N. SENIOR  
VICTORIA, April 4.—It is now possible and timely to lift the veil and reveal a glimpse of some interesting and mysterious activities that have been going on behind the scenes at Victoria.

1. Negotiations for the sale of the P. G. E. to a syndicate whose representatives have been more and more frequent in their conferences with the Tolmie Government since their arrival was first announced in The Vancouver Sun some months ago are rapidly approaching finality.

2. Conservative party efforts to break the present government and bring about a reorganization under W. J. Bowser, K.C., former premier, have reached an intensity that can not be concealed.

These facts have direct relationship to some of the otherwise peculiar and inexplicable activities of the Legislature during the past couple of weeks.

## "DYNAMITE" TO COME

They explain, for one thing, the sudden decision to shut off the budget debate in one day (March 23), the mysteriously antagonistic air that has marked the government's efforts to get on with the sessional work during the past week and the drive that is to be put on this week to get all routine business out of the way by Thursday, so that the session's "dynamite" bills may be laid before an exhausted House on Friday for a final clean-up.

There is substantial evidence to warrant the expectation that one of the "dynamite" measures will be a bill either authorizing the sale of the P. G. E. within the scope of terms to be defined in the bill, or a measure actually ratifying an agreement which is now practically ready for signature.

## ELECTIONS ACT CHANGES

Redistribution, final amendments to the Elections Act amending bill which has lain dormant on the order paper for nearly a month, and possibly a taxation bill altered materially since the budget speech are other dynamite to be reserved for the last day or two days of the week.

One thing is certain, the P. G. E. buyers have been in constant touch with certain of the ministers and at least one of the private members for the past two or three weeks, particularly since Premier Tolmie returned to duty.

The bidders insist that the deal must be closed before an election is held and will not agree to any proposition which leaves their bargain to be passed upon by voting citizens of British Columbia, it is stated.

If the present legislation is not in terms which permit the Government to close a contract, that legislation will be amended before the present session ends. If the Government considers it has authority under the Oliver and MacLean acts of some years ago for the closing of a deal, no announcement may be made until after the House rises.

## RAILWAY TO THE PEACE

The proposal is that the purchasers complete the railway to the Peace River and spend a sum of approximately \$75,000,000 in railway building and development of natural resources. Both English and American capital are understood to be involved.

So much for the P.G.E. This deal, however, bears directly upon the political situation. The negotiations have been carried on with Premier Tolmie and Hon. N. S. Loughheed primarily and those gentlemen are determined to conclude them.

Efforts to reorganize the Government had, therefore, to be resisted.

The announcement of the Government whips on the morning of March 23 that the budget debate must be concluded that day, "even if we sit till daybreak," was not founded, as many believed, on a decision to speed up the closing of the session.

It was an effort to frustrate an active drive then in progress to force a break-up of the Government by drawing a group of Conservative members into momentary opposition. Powerful business interests were working definitely to this end.

Had they been permitted to continue their efforts, there was the possibility of a coalition agreement being reached with leading Liberals, back bench Conservatives, one or two members of the cabinet and independent business men outside the House.

## TOLMIE RISKS HEALTH

Premier Tolmie got wind of it and decided that he must risk his health to save his administration. The House sat till 2 a.m. and put the budget through. The recalcitrants did not have time to complete their organization, and the only semblance of a breach was the absence of half a dozen Conservative members on the crucial division.

So far from being a sign of determination to rush the session to a close this sudden shutting off of the budget debate was followed by a week of marking time.

While this was going on, however, Dr. Tolmie and those directly associated with him have been meeting early and late with the representatives who are here to buy the P.G.E., and last week-end it was learned on reliable authority that agreement has been reached on the terms of the deal.

Meantime, however, the efforts to smash the Tolmie Government continue. The barrage is closely associated with conferences and shadow cabinet meetings that are proceeding in the immediate vicinity of W. J. Bowser. Powerful party figures at Ottawa are helping the game along.

Mr. Bowser has definitely given his consent to the use of his name as a rallying point and Senator A. D. McRae is believed to be lending his aid.

## WHAT ABOUT TOLMIE?

Mr. Bowser's "cabinet," his friends are said to have been assured, will not include a single member of the present administration except Hon. J. W. Jones.

The intimation which the general public is to be asked to accept is that a Bowser Government would not be a party government or a machine government, but would be a "national" government free from all the vices of partyism.

There is, of course, one little flaw in the scheme. That is the difficulty of getting rid of Dr. Tolmie. He says he won't quit.

The most probable course is that Premier Tolmie's government will close its P.G.E. deal and submit to an immediate election with a slightly re-organized cabinet.

Meantime, the Conservative caucus, with the Vancouver members absent, agreed on Saturday morning to rush the routine business of the session ahead on the first three or four days of the coming week with a view to prorogation before next Sunday.

# GALLERY JOTTINGS

By J. Edward Norcross

VICTORIA, April 4.—The week-end habit is pretty thoroughly established in these parliament buildings.

For the members from the lower mainland the recess lasts from Friday night to Monday afternoon.

Up - country and local members, being within call, do not always escape so easily.

Thus on Saturday morning the Conservatives available were called into caucus.

Cabinet ministers, of course, have no assurance whatever of a brief surcease from toil—at least during the session.

Any time on Saturday the raucous bell that summons them to an executive meeting may ring and they are lucky if they do not have to come down to their offices on Sunday, a day when they are free from interruption, to prepare data for presentation in the course of the debates of the following week.

## Blame Mainlanders

The up-country members don't like these long weekly adjournments. It is all very well for the men who can go home, but there is no fun in hanging about hotels and boarding houses for two or three days with nothing to do.

They didn't like it a bit when, late Friday evening, the House adjourned until 3 o'clock this afternoon and the mainlanders went gaily off to the boat.

They thought the mainlanders might at least get back on Monday morning in time to carry on committee work, which, more than anything else now, threatens to prolong a session that could otherwise be wound up in a few sittings and that, they think, might have been over already but for the insistence of the mainlanders on having their Saturdays free.

## Fifty Bills Before House

As it is, the unemployment committee goes over to Tuesday morning when more witnesses are to be heard.

It is not likely that the taking of evidence will be completed even then and after that the committee must convene to prepare its report.

Finally a protracted debate may be expected when the report reaches the House.

This is what makes it doubtful whether the government can close the session on Thursday as it is endeavoring to do.

There is not a great deal of legislation to be dealt with, although two highly controversial measures, the redistribution and taxation bills have still to be brought down.

Counting a bill to amend the Savings and Loan Associations Act, of which Mr. Pooley has given notice, exactly fifty bills have come before the House so far this session, as against the usual eighty or ninety.

Of these eighteen have already received the royal assent and five have passed third reading.

Three are out of committee, fourteen are in process of passing through that stage, and nine await second reading.



## The Question of "Frills"

These figures, of course, give no real indication of the time that is likely to be consumed in completing the measures.

The great majority of them could be disposed of in a single afternoon and still leave plenty of time to pass estimates.

But no one can say what will happen when, for instance, Mr. Hinchliffe reopens the bill amending the School Act, which now stands for report, but which Mr. Beatty proposes to amend by inserting a clause permitting city and municipal councils to decide whether such alleged "frills" as manual training, domestic science and so forth shall be indulged in by school boards.

## Constitutional Question

Mr. Beatty, of course, is quite within his rights in bringing in the amendment, if only to ventilate a very vexed question.

But the government should have something to say about the matter, for what Mr. Beatty proposes is a fundamental change in the public school system which the government, from a constitutional standpoint, should either reject or for which it should take the responsibility.

The debate is likely to be a long one in any event, though an intimation that the government could not allow the amendment to go through would tend to curtail it.

The bill amending the Game Act will take some time in committee as Mr. Pooley and Mr. Manson have still to settle between them exactly how much more game administration is costing now than it did four years ago.

The Loan bill, for \$7,500,000, will hardly reach second reading without a full-dress debate.

There is also the Provincial Elections bill, which, like the Redistribution bill and the Taxation bill, still to be brought in, will not have a very easy passage.

## Close Approaches

Nevertheless, taking everything into consideration, including supply, which, however, is very considerably advanced, there is nothing in sight at present to prevent a determined government bringing His Honor in Thursday evening, or, if this be preferred, at noon on Friday.

Even so, and quite in accordance with immemorial custom, a session that it was generally proclaimed would be a very short one, will have stretched out to at least the average, if not more than the average, length.

## Witness Absent From Relief Probe

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 4.—Letters from half a dozen witnesses asked for by A. M. Manson, K.C., were read to the unemployment committee of the Legislature today by H. D. Twigg, chairman, saying that the writers did not think they had any evidence of interest to the committee.

"Why are they not called?" asked George S. Pearson.

"Why waste the time of the committee, if they have not evidence?" replied Mr. Twigg.

"The man who asked that they be summoned is the one to judge of that," countered Mr. Pearson.

### THAT LUMBER CHARGE

"You have not consulted us about your witnesses, and you have not called one single witness that we asked for, unless it was McGeough, who would have had to come in the ordinary course."

"Two of the proposed witnesses were Mr. Bain of Mission and Gordon Raphael of the Lumber Exporters."

Mr. Bain denied he had paid the secretary of the Conservative Association at Mission 50 cents a thousand commission on lumber he sold for relief camps.

"He won't deny that he paid the 50 cents though," said Dr. Sutherland.

"He does deny it," said the chairman.

"He denies he paid it to the Secretary, and the Conservative Association also denies it was paid to the secretary," said Dr. Sutherland.

Mr. Twigg said Mr. Bain had been in Victoria and they had conversed, but it was not deemed necessary to call him because of his letter.

"Every charge you have made has blown up," said W. R. Rutledge.

"Nothing has blown up," replied Mr. Pearson.

### \$9 TO \$17.50 PER THOUSAND

"Not one witness we have asked for has been put in the stand."

Hon. R. Bruhn gave evidence briefly that the Lumber Exporters had

made a proposal to sell lumber for the camps at a low price and distribute the business among their members.

He had referred the delegation, of whom Gordon Raphael was one, to the Deputy Minister and he understood a considerable quantity of lumber had been purchased in this way at from \$9 to \$17.50 a thousand, according to delivery costs.

More might have been paid in the Interior, he said, as the orders were to buy from local mills.

### DEMANDED CAMPS

Mr. Bruhn said all permanent camps had been established on main highways on the express understanding with the Dominion Government and that although he had at first tried to keep the number down he had been pressed by Ottawa, by the Vancouver newspapers, and by the police of the cities to get the single men out of the cities into camps.

The Daily Province on October 2 had said it must be done no matter what the cost, said the minister.

The minister gave his idea of what should be done in future.

He urged that the Dominion must take steps to keep transients out of B. C., as this Province had had to take care of 42,000 single men, whereas Alberta and Saskatchewan had only 5,000 single men each unemployed.

He also urged that boys of 17 to 19 should be kept in separate camps and trained or given schooling, instead of mingling in company that might not be helpful.

H. D. Twigg, chairman, notified the committee that Premier Toimie had requested the committee to report speedily, as the Legislature would not adjourn until the committee had reported.

## Vancouver Members Fight Mutuel Tax Cut

### William Dick Casts First Vote Against Government—Amusement Bill Raises Ire

VICTORIA, April 5.—William Dick cast his first vote against the Toimie Government on Monday. He and T. H. Kirk, both Conservative members, stood up with the opposition when A. Wells Gray, New Westminster, moved an amendment to kill the Government bill limiting the municipalities' share of the pari-mutuel tax revenue to \$170,000. Mr. Kirk had already voted against the clause in committee.

G. A. Walkem, Vancouver and George Heggie, North Okanagan, two other Conservative members, were absent from the House unpaired when the vote was taken.

The bill limiting the municipalities' share to \$170,000 has point because of the increase in the tax from 5 to 7 per cent and the estimate of \$235,000 revenue from the levy next year.

Col. Nelson Spencer of Vancouver and the Victoria Conservative members voted with the government despite the protest of their civic bodies against the measure.

Hon. J. W. Jones, finance minister, was subjected to a running fire of

questions during passage of the amusement tax bill through committee. A. Wells Gray protested vigorously against taxing amateur games, as is now to be done.

The minister declined to give any rash interpretation of the meaning that might be attached to the words, "patriotic and charitable," as applied to classes of entertainment for which there will be no amusement tax.

He thought the House itself ought to be able to guess whether a dance in aid of a church was for "charity" and whether an Elks' Flag Day party was patriotic.

No information was given as to what the government's attitude would be to a high school dance, to a dance in aid of a library in a company town, or to a dance where a share of the proceeds went to the owners of the hall when the owners were simply a community association acting for the community as a whole and not for personal profit.

He seemed quite sure, however, that a Liberal Association dance could not be classed as patriotic.

## McGeough Held Two Jobs, Declare Tories

VICTORIA, April 5.—"This committee would hang a man without a trial," declared T. D. Pattullo at this morning's session of the Legislative Unemployment Committee as General J. A. Clark, Government counsel, proceeded to adduce evidence to the effect that M. H. McGeough, Dominion Government relief director, had held down two jobs at the same time, one for the C.P.R. and one for the Provincial Government.

A. M. Innes, C.P.R. wharf agent at Vancouver, said McGeough had been in the C.P.R. employ from September, 1927, to September 30, 1931, holding various positions at rates of pay averaging \$125 a month.

E. D. Johnson, Deputy Minister of Finance, said McGeough had been on the Provincial Government payroll at \$4 a day from 1924 to September, 1931, as a watchman over idle industries, in order to comply with insurance regulations.

Mr. Johnson did not know he held another job or he would not have approved the vouchers for his pay cheques, he said.

Gen. Clark explained that the evidence was intended as a commentary on McGeough's competence and credibility as a witness in view of the fact that his evidence had been contradicted by several of the Provincial Cabinet ministers and officials.

He thought also the committee should make recommendations to Ottawa on the subject.

"This is an effort to take away this man's character in his absence and after you have refused to recall him," declared T. D. Pattullo. "It is a gross injustice."

Dr. W. H. Sutherland elicited from Mr. Innes that McGeough had no black marks and that he had worked

for the C. P. R. for many years previously on the prairies as a despatcher.

The incident closed with Liberal members protesting that Mr. McGeough should be recalled to answer this morning's evidence, but Chairman H. D. Twigg said McGeough was in Ottawa.

## Maitland And Pooley Split On Jury Plan

### B.C. Cabinet Ministers Disagree on Policy Involved in Government Measure

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 5.—The unusual spectacle of two members of the same cabinet coming into conflict in regard to the policy involved in a government bill before parliament was witnessed in the B.C. Legislature Monday when Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., minister without portfolio, expressed regret that Attorney-General Pooley should be bringing in a bill to abolish the grand jury.

Mr. Pooley explained that the effective legislation had been passed at Ottawa, and his own amendment to the Jury Act merely struck out the references to grand juries therein.

T. D. Pattullo, leader of the opposition, said the Ottawa legislation was passed on the recommendation of Mr. Pooley, and criticized him for not bringing the matter before the B.C. Legislature before making such a recommendation.

Mr. Pooley said with changing times grand juries had outlived their usefulness.

"I cannot help but feel," said Mr. Maitland, "we had better be careful about getting away from the old traditions that lend majesty and dignity to the bench, the bar and the administration of justice. I hope we will not get in the position of the United States, where there is no dignity to the administration of justice. It is not always dollars and cents we should bear in mind."

## \$7,500,000 Loan To Await Gov't Need

### Pattullo Says Gov't Extravagance Has Put Ministry in Wrong With Voters

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 5.—The \$7,500,000 loan which the Toimie Government seeks power to raise under its 1932 Loan Bill will not be applied for at once, Hon. J. W. Jones stated in the Legislature Monday on second reading, but will be used as the case arises and when the money market offers the best opportunity.

"If the Government had not spent \$20,000,000 too much during its term of office it would be in a better position now and would have stood a good chance of success when it appealed to the country soon as it inevitably must," T. D. Pattullo, leader of the opposition, commented. He pointed out the Bill called for \$7,500,000 for deficits.

Mr. Jones said \$400,000 would be used for bridges and highways, the greater part of which would be for the protection of bridges. The sum of \$100,000 was needed for the conservation fund for irrigation districts of the Interior.

### TOURIST BUSINESS PERIL

Roads would deteriorate unless money were spent on them, Mr. Pattullo claimed, and the valuable tourist business would suffer. He hoped complete data on the \$100,000 conserva-

tion fund would be given in the committee stage, recalling that in his day \$2,250,000 was loaned to irrigation districts to preserve the integrity of the dry belt.

He asked for information about rebates, recalling that the Government had rebated \$900,000 in interest. Would rebates be general?

Hon. N. S. Loughheed said the \$100,000 was needed to complete an improvement program started two or three years ago. Demands for payments made on irrigation districts had been met in many cases 100 per cent and on an average of 79.02 per cent.

### BASIS FOR AGREEMENT

Hon. W. A. McKenzie and Mr. Pattullo found themselves in accord on two points. Mr. McKenzie agreed that Mr. Pattullo was right when during the last administration he proposed \$2,250,000 be advanced to save dry belt irrigation systems and Mr. Pattullo announced that he was not quarrelling with the \$100,000 in the bill before them for the conservation fund.

They were, however, wide apart on the value of the Sanford Evans report, which Mr. Pattullo claimed disclosed nothing the government could not have secured from its own officials or records.

## 'NO KNOWLEDGE' OF LIQUOR BOARD MOVES

VICTORIA, April 5.—What goes on in the Liquor Board administration is not within the official knowledge of the Attorney-General, the legislature was advised Monday.

T. D. Pattullo had asked some questions of the Attorney-General about travelling expenses of the commissioners and whether the board had an office in the Pacific Building, Vancouver.

They were returned marked: "No official knowledge."

"The Liquor Board is within the Attorney-General's department and if he has no knowledge of these matters it is his duty to ascertain," said Mr. Pattullo.



# UNTRUE DATA GIVEN HOUSE BY MINISTER, SAY LIBERALS

Hon. J. W. Jones Challenged  
in Legislature on Verity  
of Budget Speech Figures

Pattullo Challenges Pooley  
to Resign Seat If Facts  
of Accusation Unproven

By C. NORMAN SENIOR

VICTORIA, April 5.—One of the most serious charges that could be levelled against a Finance Minister was three times thrown across the floor of the Legislature Monday night at Hon. J. W. Jones, who agreed to have a show-down during the vote for his salary, on the disputed question of how much money the Tolmie Government has spent since taking office.

The charge made by T. D. Pattullo, Dr. W. H. Sutherland and George S. Pearson was that the Minister had repeatedly issued untrue statements about Provincial finances. The charge was supported by comparing two sets of statements made by the Minister with regard to the same sets of facts.

On one occasion Mr. Pattullo said that if he could not produce an official Government statement on the records of the House contradicting figures Mr. Jones had just given out, he would resign his seat, and he dared Hon. R. H. Pooley, who had briefly injected himself into the debate, to accept the challenge.

## JONES SAYS \$110,000,000 SPENT

Mr. Jones first undertook to give a statement of how much the Government has spent, in reply to a general observation by A. M. Manson some days ago that the total was between \$145,000,000 and \$150,000,000.

Mr. Jones said the total was \$110,000,000. He made this up by adding the current expenditures for the three fiscal years ended March 31, 1930, 1931 and 1932, a total of \$83,390,000 to new borrowings of \$25,000,000 under Loan Acts and \$2,000,000 borrowed otherwise for unemployment relief.

Mr. Pattullo first pointed out that Mr. Jones had not included one dollar spent during the first seven and one-half months the Government was in office, from August 20, 1928, to March 31, 1929. Averaging the total for that year over the month by month figures, he said it was fair to assume the Tolmie Government had spent at least \$15,000,000 that year.

In the debt statement, Mr. Pattullo charged that Mr. Jones had contradicted his own budget speeches.

"In the Minister's Budget speech this year, he said the new money borrowed during the 12 months up to November 30 was \$12,300,000," said Mr. Pattullo.

"A year ago, he said the sum borrowed in the preceding 12 months was \$15,600,000. There, in two years alone, is \$32,900,000, and the Minister now tells us he has borrowed only \$25,000,000. The \$25,000,000 does not take into account the first year and a half this Government was in office, nor the past four or five months.

"There is another proof. The interest on public debt has increased by \$2,400,000 since this Government took office. That is 5 per cent on \$45,000,000 by which this Government has increased the debt.

If you add together the Minister's \$3 millions for the current expenditures of the three years he quoted, to the 15 millions for the first seven and one-half months and the 45 millions of debt, you have 143 millions without taking into account the deficit of this year, which will run to between 5 and 10 millions."

## PEARSON'S VIEWPOINT

Mr. Pearson then presented the situation from a different angle. He had made an actual calculation showing that during 1928-9 the old Government, in its four and one-half months, had spent at the rate of \$1,800,000 a month, whereas the new Government had spent at the rate of \$2,200,000. But giving the Government an even break, \$15,000,000 was a fair sum to allot them for that year.

He accepted Mr. Jones' figures for the next three years, but quoted the Minister's own figures as given in answers to questions on the journals of the House to show that the borrowings had been \$38,000,000, not the \$25,000,000 quoted by Mr. Jones in the current debate.

When the Government came in it had admitted acquiring \$9,600,000 of unexercised borrowing powers. Its new loan acts totalled \$32,400,000 and the unexercised borrowing power extant on January 1, this year, was reduced to \$4,000,000. It was clear, therefore, that the total new borrowings, exclusive of unemployment borrowings since January 1 this year, was at least \$38,000,000, on the figures provided year by year to the House by the Minister himself.

"The Minister of Finance is, therefore, obviously out 30 or 35 millions in the statement he gave this House tonight," concluded Mr. Pearson.

Mr. Jones said the House had to listen to a lot of blather and bunk from the Opposition leader. He said he could not accept the figures quoted by either Liberal member and specifically denied a statement by Mr. Pattullo that \$2,000,000 had been borrowed last year for deficits. It was borrowed for unemployment relief, and not one dollar was used for deficits.

He charged the late Liberal Government with having incurred 16 millions of deficits in 12 years. Mr. Pattullo disputed this. He said it had had a current surplus every year but two and had applied 15 millions of current surplus to capital account, which the Minister had neglected to take into account.

"But even accepting that basis of computation, incorrect as it is," said Mr. Pattullo, "this Government has incurred a larger deficit in four years than we are charged with incurring in 12 years."

## ACCUSES PATTULLO

Mr. Jones accused Mr. Pattullo with impairing the credit of the province by his charges of insolvency.

Mr. Pattullo said he had refrained from discussing finances during his last summer's tour until October, when it became necessary to point out the disastrous effect of the short term borrowings then falling due under adverse exchange conditions.

"But the financial men know these facts," said Mr. Pattullo. "You can't fool them, and the public have a right to know the facts. We would be recreant in our duty if we did not bring them out."

Mr. Jones said it was just a case of a professional politician trying to get into office.

The debate then turned on the increase in the civil service, when Mr. Jones set out to refute figures given by Mr. Pattullo, Friday night, showing an increase of \$1,000,000 since the present Government took office, in pay-roll alone.

Mr. Jones said in August, 1928, there were 1389 civil servants and the pay-roll for that year was \$2,693,000.

In August, 1931, the civil service was on an annual pay-roll basis of \$3,037,000, the increase in number of personnel being 138, to a total of 1527. The increase in pay-roll was only \$300,000, he said, not the million dollars claimed by Mr. Pattullo, and since August the salary reductions and dismissals had brought the total back to lower than it was when the Government took office.

Mr. Pattullo stated that his figures had been taken from the Government's own accounts by a chartered accountant.

# GALLERY JOTTINGS

By J. Edward Norcross

VICTORIA, April 5.—With two ministers of the crown at variance over one government bill and two supporters of the administration voting with the opposition against another, Monday afternoon's sitting of the House was redeemed from an uninspired gloom that would otherwise have completely enveloped it.

Things began badly enough.

The Speaker had rejected a question asked by Mr. Pattullo and Mr. Pattullo wanted to know why.

The question was whether or not the Government Liquor Board was renting an office in the Pacific Building, Vancouver.

"Not within the official knowledge of the attorney general," was the reason given for refusal.

Mr. Pattullo argued that anything in connection with the Liquor Board should be within the official knowledge of Mr. Pooley.

This, of course, revived the old allegation that the government was withholding information.

"We're not trying to hide things," the Premier snapped back, rather sharply for him.

Then Mr. Pooley beat a retreat, asking Mr. Pattullo to let him have the questions again and intimating that he would see what he could do.

## Grand Jury Swan Song

A state of general acerbity having thus been reached, Dr. Tolmie said he hoped the House would get through with its work this week and invoked the co-operation of the opposition, evoking from Mr. Pattullo the retort that the opposition might be able to assist if only the government would bring down its legislation—a reminder that at least two very important bills have still to be introduced.

As everybody knows, the Dominion parliament has passed a measure abolishing grand juries in this province.

This necessitates complementary legislation here and Mr. Pooley spoke to the second reading of a bill brought in to meet the need.

The Dominion act was passed on Mr. Pooley's recommendation as chief law officer of this province.

The attorney general put up a very strong case for abolition, chiefly on the ground of the heavy expense involved, not only for no useful purpose, but, sometimes, he said, to the detriment of the administration of justice.

## Cart Before the Horse

His colleague, Mr. Maitland, was not so sure, however, that it was a good thing to dispense with grand juries.

He still remembered his first case at a court of assize.

The court on that occasion sat at Clinton and it was nearly twenty years ago.

He recalled, he said, the added dignity lent to the proceedings by a grand jury headed by that fine old patriarch, the late Charles Semlin, once premier of British Columbia.

He thought it would be well to keep things that lent dignity to the bench and to the administration of justice.

Now, while Mr. Maitland was careful to say that all this was not being sent to Mr. Pooley's address, it was difficult to see to whose it was directed if not to that of the attorney general.

Mr. Pattullo dotted the "i"s and crossed the "t"s neatly by applauding Mr. Maitland and declaring that, whatever the merits of the question, Mr. Pooley should have consulted the House before he took action.



J. Edward Norcross

Obviously, the cart was before the horse; the local debate should have preceded, not have followed, the action taken at Ottawa.

## The Pari-Mutuel Tax

It will be recalled that last week Mr. Kirk put up his hand in committee against a government proposal that the amount paid the municipalities out of the proceeds of the pari-mutuel tax be limited to the maximum sum of \$120,000.

This meant that if the municipal percentage fell below \$170,000 the amount distributed would be so much less, but that, no matter how much the tax realized, no more would be paid.

The issue came up again when report stage was reached, the opposition forcing a division.

Mr. Kirk stuck to his guns and was reinforced by Mr. Dick, the vote being 28 to 13.

## Barbers Bill Up in Air

Last year the House solemnly passed an amendment to "section 13" of the Barbers Act.

As it happened there was no "section 13" in that act and the amending bill was therefore somewhat up in the air.

Mr. Maitland fixed it up with another bill and then went on to finish off the Companies bill all by himself, Mr. Manson not being at hand.

He assured the House, however, that he had Mr. Manson's consent to the amendments he was bringing in.

Liens and bills of sale against motor cars will have to be registered in Victoria hereafter, instead of in any court-house that happens to be handy.

The province is almost unanimous that this is the best way, Mr. Pooley said. It was in fact 99.99 per cent unanimous, for only one man, a resident of Vernon, objected.

Mr. Jones would have been glad to be able to say that his loan bill for \$7,500,000 and his Amusements Tax bill were in any such position

but, as regards the latter, there were indications of differences of opinion even on his own side.

## \$1,956,000 for Roads

Thirteen bills had been pushed through one or more stages by dinner time.

In the evening Mr. Bruhn opened the floodgates by asking for \$1,956,000 for roads and bridges, members begging him, even though times were hard, not to forget this or that bit of highway or bridge promised long ago.

Eventually the estimate was passed, completing those for the Public Works Department, and Mr. Pattullo's good wishes accompanying him, the minister gathered up his papers preparatory to starting off to Ottawa.

Most of the rest of the evening was spent in an examination of the

state of public finances, with particular relation to the amount of money spent by the present government since it took office, in which Mr. Pattullo and Mr. Jones each took his acrimonious part.

## Business Done

First reading: Bill amending the Teachers' Pensions Act.

Second reading: Amendments to bill amending the Petroleum and Natural Gas Act; bills amending the Moving Pictures Act, the Bills of Sale Act, the Conditional Sales Act, the Jury Act, and the Barbers Act; Loan bill (\$7,500,000).

Reported: Bills amending the Municipalities Aid Act, the Companies Act, the Amusements Tax Act, the Greater Vancouver Water District Act.

Third reading: Bill amending the Distress Act.

## Relief Probe May Delay Early End of Session

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 5.—Announcement by Premier Tolmie at the opening of Monday's sitting of the Legislature that he was prepared to procure final adjournment this week led to a clash over the work of the unemployment committee. The Premier said a report from this committee for debate in the House would be insisted upon. T. D. Pattullo said he would assist in getting through the work. The opposition had waived the debate on the address at the opening of the session, but the government was not ready and for weeks the House had sat an average of an hour and a half a day.

The unemployment committee had been slow in getting down to work and even yet none of the witnesses asked for by opposition members had been produced.

"The whole thing is a travesty," he said. "We ask for a witness and instead of issuing a subpoena the chairman interviews the witness and advises us it is no use calling him. The object of this committee is just to give the government a certificate of character."

H. D. Twigg, chairman of the committee, said Mr. Pattullo's statements were untrue and every charge investigated had been found worthless.

If the government wished to get through promptly Mr. Pattullo advised the Premier to bring down any remaining legislation at once, so that opposition members might have time to consider it. He was willing to wind up the session at once, but the opposition would insist on carrying out their duty of submitting all legislation to such criticism as was warranted.

## B. C. Shared Grants Fully, Says Minister

No Negligence, Declares Hinchliffe, in Securing Technical Funds Quota

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 5.—Denial that the responsibility for failure to obtain technical education grants from Ottawa in recent years rested upon the Provincial Government was made in the Legislature Monday by Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, Minister of Education.

He referred to an Ottawa despatch in The Vancouver Sun of April 1, stating that a return in Parliament showed B.C. had made no application for a grant in the last two fiscal years, while five other provinces had applied and obtained funds.

Mr. Hinchliffe cited official records in support of his claim that the original 10-year agreement to make technical education grants had expired in 1929 and that within this period B. C. had received the full proportion to which it was entitled on a population quota.

He quoted letters from Ottawa officials that British Columbia's portion was exhausted in 1929, but that the act had been extended to 1934 to enable the five provinces in question to use up the money that had been appropriated for them and which they had been unable to earn under the 50-50 agreement.

With regard to the Bennett Government's new act, he read a further communication that the Dominion had decided not to put this act into operation until the economic condition of the country warranted such expenditures.

"British Columbia received all she was entitled to," concluded the minister. "There was no negligence on our part."

## TEACHERS' PENSIONS TO BE RESTRICTED

VICTORIA, April 5.—Amendments to the Teachers' Pensions Act were introduced in the legislature Monday by Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe.

In view of the number of teachers returning to the profession these days one clause provides that teachers who have been out of the service for five years may not count their years of service prior to the interlude in estimating their rights to pension. The pension commissioners are given discretionary powers with regard to those who have been out for more than five years.

Where part of a pension is payable to a second party, such as the wife of a teacher, facilities for continuing the wife's share after the pensioner's death are provided.

## Registration Of Cars to Be Centralized

Must All Be Recorded in Victoria, Says Pooley; Fee Increased to \$1

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 5.—Central registration of all transactions affecting motor cars in British Columbia is to be effected.

In moving second reading of amendments to the Bills of Sale and Conditional Sales Act in the Legislature Monday, Attorney-General Pooley stated that it was difficult for people having to do with the titles of automobiles to ascertain from all the many registry offices in the provinces what liens might be registered against them.

So it has been decided that all registrations shall be made at the office of the Superintendent of B. C. Police in Victoria. Under these conditions only one search will be required to know whether there is any prior lien against a car whose title is in question.

T. D. Pattullo said this would make for delay with all documents having to come from every part of the province to Victoria, but there was undoubtedly an abuse to be corrected.

He noted, however, that the minister had made no reference to the fact that the registration fee was being increased from 25 cents to \$1, so he presumed that in one more direction the finance minister had found a place to rake in some more money.

Mr. Pooley said the increased fee was to pay the salaries of extra officials required to look after the extra records.

The bills were given second reading.

## FILM QUOTA BILL WILL BE PUSHED

VICTORIA, April 5.—J. W. Cornett, Conservative whip, in whose name the British film quota bill has been adjourned for some time, finally told the Legislature Monday that he was going to support the bill, and it went through second reading.

It is understood Mr. Cornett had held the bill up pending a party caucus which was held Saturday.

While he had heard that little theatres feared there might be some hardship, Mr. Cornett expressed confidence that the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council could be relied upon not to inflict any injustice.

## TORIES FAIL TO AGREE ON MORATORIUM

Many Members Demand Gov't Action to Stop Rising Wave of Foreclosures

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 5.—Inability of the Conservative caucus to agree on terms may block introduction of the much-needed Moratorium Bill into the B. C. Legislature this session.

A strong group of members insist that some steps must be taken to stop the disastrous series of foreclosures now going on in Vancouver and threatened throughout the country.

They also say that it is vitally important to stop for a time the outflow of principal money from B. C. business channels to the big eastern and foreign loan companies.

Attorney General Pooley is said to hold out for a moratorium which necessitates application to the courts, which business men say would destroy the benefits of the bill.

The issue is in red hot controversy among the Government supporters and there is no daylight yet as to what the outcome may be.

## SOCIAL SERVICE LEVY PROTESTED

Cities Renew Battle at Victoria

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 5.—Although Premier Tolmie and Hon. J. W. Jones, Minister of Finance, have definitely intimated to civic delegations that there is no prospect of a change of heart, representatives of Victoria and Vancouver City Councils joined forces again today in protest of the transfer of part of the social service burden on the cities.

Mayor Leeming, Alderman John Worthington and Alderman P. R. Brown represented Victoria. Aldermen W. H. Lembke, J. J. McRae and J. B. Williams, city solicitor, came over from Vancouver.

Determined that members shall know exactly what difficulties the new financial burden will create for the municipalities they sought again to place the case before the Victoria and Vancouver members and present arguments for what they considered a more equitable distribution of the social service load and a fairer distribution to the cities of their share of taxes collected by the Government in their confines.

They will endeavor to see the members of both cities later today.

## Trustees To Fight Plan Of Control

R. H. Neelands Sent to Oppose Legislation to Be Brought in By M.L.A.

The Vancouver School Board last night rushed Chairman R. H. Neelands to Victoria to fight threatened legislative action to curtail the authority of trustees in school expenditure.

Several trustees declared at a board meeting that they were informed that one of the Victoria members of the Legislature planned to introduce an amendment to the Public Schools Act that would give the city councils of Vancouver and Victoria control over certain forms of expenditure.

The move was viewed by the board as a new attempt to eliminate commercial courses, domestic science, manual training and similar work from the schools following inaction on the Union of B.C. Municipalities' recent proposal for the abolition of school boards.

It was pointed out that enactment of an amendment of this kind would put the councils in a position to dictate policy to the boards and would put administration of the schools in the hands of persons inexperienced in educational affairs.

### TRUSTEES FEAR ACTION

Trustees feared the proposal would pass if it reached the house unchanged as country members, thinking it a Vancouver and Victoria matter, would refrain from opposing it. In this, the board agreed, the rural members would be wrong for what would apply to the two large cities this year would be extended to the whole province later.

It was decided at the same time to send letters to Premier Tolmie, to the minister of education and to the Vancouver, Victoria and Lower Mainland members.

The reasonableness of the board's attitude in matters of expenditure will be pointed out in the letters. They will recall that last year the board not only met the council's request for reduced estimates but actually spent less money than was allotted to it.

### GRANT REQUEST DEFERRED

Previous to the meeting of the board the management committee disposed of a number of minor matters.

A request for approximately \$200 for the Y.M.C.A. school swimming campaign was laid over until the City Council takes final action on the school estimates.

The Y.M.C.A. wanted the money to rent swimming pools where school boys over twelve, as in previous years, might be given swimming instruction before the summer holidays come.



# GALLERY JOTTINGS

By J. Edward Norcross

VICTORIA, April 6.—The House is seldom seen to better advantage than it was on Tuesday afternoon when for the most part it addressed itself seriously to legislation, and, except for one or two brief excursions into that field, cut out politics altogether.

This was particularly marked when the committee stage was taken with the Petroleum and Natural Gas bill, the new measure with which Mr. Loughheed proposes to revolutionize the provincial code governing the staking, development and exploitation of oil lands.

True Mr. Pattullo, like Jean Ingelw's "dove on the mast," continued to mourn and mourn and mourn for the rugged prospector whom he conceived wrongfully handicapped by the bill for the benefit of bloated monopolists.

It was in vain that Col. Nelson Spencer, speaking from knowledge gained on the prairies, assured Mr. Pattullo that it was a delusion and a snare to think that a man of small means could get into the "oil game" except by a very lucky chance; the leader of the opposition would not be comforted.

"I am opposed to the measure," he gloomily declared.

## Of One Mind, Sometimes

Thus it was rather surprising when, a few minutes later, Mr. Pattullo found himself in agreement

with Colonel Spencer, and Mr. Hinchliffe with both.

The question at issue was whether or not royalty should be on a percentage basis.

Mr. Loughheed had provided for a fixed royalty but the clause had to go back to be made over again.

Then Mr. Uphill, Labor, and Dr. Alward, Conservative, were of one mind about the period allowed the holder of oil land to make good or get out, both declaring that Mr. Loughheed's one year was not enough. Mr. Loughheed will do some carpenter work on that section also.

A little later Dr. Alward and Mr. Kergin, the Liberal whip, found they were of the same opinion regarding another clause, but Mr. Loughheed had his own way about it that time.

## Loutet Challenges Act

It was the same when the bill amending the Municipal Act was taken in hand.

Mr. Loutet had evidently made a close study of the measure, for he challenged clause after clause.

The member for North Vancouver was opposed to permitting municipalities to tax improvements as high as 75 per cent of the assessed value.

The present limit is 50 per cent. He was also opposed to allowing them to increase the mill rate for general purposes, unless the taxation of improvements was made compulsory for those municipalities that took advantage of the permission.

Mayor Wells Gray, of New Westminster; Mr. Walkem, former reeve of Point Grey; Mr. Hayward, in whose family the mayoralty of Victoria is inclined to be hereditary; Mr. Cornett, once reeve of South

Vancouver, and Mr. Rutledge, of Burnaby, discussed the several issues with the knowledge and experience of experts.

Incidentally it developed that it was all Victoria's fault.

Victoria had got itself into such an awkward place that it had to have these new powers.

Victoria should have an act all to itself, said Mr. Walkem. Why should the Municipal Act be dragged through the House year after year just for the benefit of one city?

Mr. Hayward, who is in charge of the bill, will return it to the yards for alterations.

## One Political Spasm

There was one really political spasm, Mr. Pooley replying to certain unpleasant things Mr. Manson had said the other day about the Liquor Board administration.

The member for Omicame was not present, being tied up in the Court of Appeal at Vancouver, so Mr. Pattullo implored Mr. Pooley to desist.

It was not, however Mr. Pooley's day for desisting, which is unfortunate, for it means that we shall have the thing all over again when the bill reaches report stage—presuming, of course, that Mr. Manson is in his place at the time.

A measure that might have been expected to provoke an exchange of compliments in reverse across the floor of the House was Mr. Jones' Loan bill, that enabling him to borrow \$7,500,000.

Mr. Pattullo had nothing more to say about it, however, than that there would be another like it next year.

It was all over in three minutes—out of committee, reported and read a third time, the leader of the opposition sweetly remarking that it would come in useful for him by and by.

## Endearing References

It is these thoughtful, not to say tactful, references to the outcome of the next general election that so endear Mr. Pattullo to the gentlemen on the other side of the House.

At the very end of the afternoon the Druggists' bill was brought up for second reading and it looked as if there really might be some excitement.

Mr. Loutet, however, had no sooner completed a short speech urging its passage than Mr. Hinchliffe turned off the debate.

Having advanced thirteen bills in the afternoon the House in the evening attempted to improve this record. The effort failed, however, when the debate on the Chiropractors' bill having been opened by Mr. Hayward, Dr. Gillis adjourned it.

The Execution Act could have been taken up, but the supreme courtesy of Mr. Twigg prevented this. The bill stands in Mr. Manson's name and when it was called Mr. Twigg, in behalf of his absent friend, asked that it stand over.

After these feints, the House settled down again to supply, beginning by cleaning up the one or two remaining votes of the Agricultural Department.

## Business Done

First reading: Bill to amend the Contributory Negligence Act.

Reported: Bills amending the Public Schools Act, the Coal and Petroleum Act and the Government Liquor Act.

Third reading: Bills amending the Municipalities Aid Act, the Amusements Tax Act, the Greater Vancouver Water District Act, the Companies Act, the Moving Pictures Act, and the Barbers Act; the Insurance bill and the Loan bill.

# Fruit Dealers Protest Gov't Jamaica 'Joy Ride'

## Taxpayers' Money Used to Benefit Competitor Says Water Street Importers

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 6.—A letter from the wholesale produce dealers of Vancouver to Premier Tolmie protesting against the government's audacity in using the taxpayers' money to subsidize a particular individual competing with them for business, evoked a mild storm in the Legislature Tuesday night.

G. S. Pearson read the letter, which related to the grant of \$1000 expense money to Harry Hastings of Victoria for a trip to Jamaica, which Hon. W. A. Atkinson, minister of agriculture, said resulted in increasing the importation of Jamaica citrus fruits to B. C. from nothing in 1929 to 2200 cases in 1931.

The objection to the grant was the Department's admission that Mr. Hastings personally did the importing.

Following is the text of the letter to the Premier.

Our attention was drawn to an item in yesterday's press relative to a payment of \$1000 to a Mr. Hastings. According to the report this money was given by the government to this party to help defray expenses incurred on his trip to Jamaica in connection with the introduction of Jamaica citrus fruits into this province.

## TAXPAYERS' MONEY

For your information citrus fruits from Jamaica have been imported by established Vancouver wholesale fruit firms for the past several years and at considerable expense, and when the government of this province has the audacity to subsidize, to the extent of \$1000 of taxpayers' money, an individual who not only pays little if any taxes, has practically no investment in his business and goes directly to the retail trade with his wares to the detriment of the regular wholesale jobbers, then it is time to call a halt to such unwarranted squandering of public funds.

What right has the government to jeopardize the businesses of accredited wholesale fruit dealers whose investments in Vancouver and Victoria approximate \$1,500,000 (upon which heavy taxes must be paid), and with an annual pay-roll of approximately \$375,000?

In vigorously protesting such expenditures, the undersigned Vancouver wholesale fruit dealers feel they have a prior claim to consideration by the government on questions vitally affecting their businesses, and desire this brought to the attention of the House, with a reply from you in the matter at your earliest convenience.

Cheese Bros. Ltd., Clark Fruit & Prod. Co. Ltd., Swartz Bros. Ltd., Chapman Bros., B. C. Farmers Exchange, H. A. Edgett, J. McMillan & Co., Brown Fruit Ltd., Independent Fruit Co., Hayward & Scott Ltd., F. R. Stewart & Co. Ltd., A. P. Slade & Co. Ltd., R. Efford & Co., Rainford & Co. Ltd., B. C. Fruit & Prod. Co. Ltd.

## "A GOOD CONSERVATIVE"

Dr. W. H. Sutherland said if the truth were told the grant was made because Mr. Hastings was a good Conservative and wrote letters to the Colonist.

Hon. R. L. Maitland retorted with a bitter attack on Vancouver's "wholesale row" as the most cold-blooded bunch of dollar worshippers in the country, and a general party row followed with Hon. W. A. McKenzie, T. D. Pattullo and various members of both parties exchanging compliments.

# Social Levies On Per Capita Basis Backed

## Support in Legislature for Vancouver Request Is Promised to Delegation

Support in the House for Vancouver's request that social service costs, if they are not avoidable, be assessed against municipalities on a per capita basis was promised yesterday by Vancouver and Victoria M.L.A.'s and Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe.

If this move is successful the city will save \$100,000 per year, which will be scattered over all other B. C. municipalities, according to an estimate obtained today from City Solicitor J. B. Williams, who is still in Victoria.

This was news branded as "satisfactory" by members of the civic delegation which returned today from Victoria. Ald. J. J. McRae and Ald. W. H. Lembke thought their visit a fruitful one.

They point to the fact that more mothers receive pensions in Vancouver than in any other municipality or city compared with population.

## URGE PER CAPITA BASIS

The cost of pensions should be levied on a per capita basis so that the Vancouver taxpayer should not have to pay for pensions given to mothers who rightfully belong in other towns or cities, they contended.

Mothers in need should be a charge against the whole province rather than the place in which they live, it was stated.

The other social services, such as maintenance of persons in Essondale, Tranquille, and boys and girls' industrial homes, should be handled on the same basis, they set out.

## FROM LIQUOR PROFITS

Mr. Hinchliffe suggested that the share of each municipality be deducted from its share of liquor profits, and intimated that he would carry this to the government.

Victoria and Vancouver City Councils collaborated at the meeting.

They also sought allocation to them of new sources of revenue if new social levies were to be made upon them. Little progress was made along this line, members said, pending results of a conference on the matter which Premier Tolmie has promised to call after the close of the present House session.

## FOREST FIRE PREVENTION

Local aldermen joined North Shore representatives at a meeting with Hon. Nels Loughheed, Minister of Lands, to discuss fire prevention in areas contiguous to North and West Vancouver and the Greater Vancouver Water Board's limits in the Capilano and Seymour creek basins.

The government has withdrawn its fire-fighting appropriations of other years. Mr. Loughheed claimed that the government should never have assumed the prevention service in organized districts, but promised his co-operation.

The government might be willing to donate its equipment if municipalities interested handle the patrol, it was stated.

A fair division of the cost is to be worked out by officials for presentation to another meeting.

### A REAL MORATORIUM

A deadlock in Conservative caucus may prevent a moratorium bill going before the Legislature this session.

If that is the case, then it means that the caucus puts technicalities before principle, terminology before necessity.

If British Columbia is to have a moratorium, it should actually give relief to business by temporarily preventing the flow of British Columbia money eastward.

Business needs that money here for the time being, to pay out in wages and develop its facilities to greater earning and producing power.

Lack of that money will compel business, in many cases, to reduce wages further or dismiss staffs. That means confiscation of business with its power to repay.

One proposal before the caucus provides for a moratorium on principal providing taxes and interest are kept up. Businesses and individuals may make this moratorium applicable to themselves by applying to the courts.

This means that all litigatory expense will have to be borne by those whose pockets it is desired to protect. Indeed, the measure will afford no relief that is not already procurable from the courts. Chief Justice Morrison has lately fixed the time for redemption for the mortgagor at a year, which is, in effect, a moratorium to that particular mortgagor. Doubtless the courts, unless conditions improve, will continue the practice of giving extended time for redemption.

Now all this affords a certain measure of relief for the man or business whose activities would be crippled by having to meet principal payments, either in full or by installment, on mortgages. But it is not sweeping enough to halt the flood of those millions of dollars that are being recalled by loan companies to Eastern Canada.

It is common knowledge that the big loan companies are withdrawing their money to the east where it is being reinvested in municipal and other "safe" bonds. The mortgage business has been practically discontinued in this province which, from an interest-yielding standpoint, has been the most fruitful field for the loan companies in all Canada.

Surely these companies owe a little consideration to British Columbia and to the people of British Columbia. And surely the best way of showing that grateful consideration is to gracefully accede to a real moratorium which will at least give business British Columbia a breathing spell and stop the drainage of that money which is the life blood of British Columbia's commerce.

What this province needs and what the Legislature should provide is a moratorium in which the onus of application should not rest upon the mortgagor, but upon the mortgagee.

Declare a moratorium applicable to all cases. And then let the mortgagees, not the mortgagors, apply for relief in their individual cases and be judged summarily in the courts.

Only under such a blanket moratorium, which throws the burden of litigation upon the loan companies, can this province hope to take some steps towards some regional control of money that will prevent the concentration of Canada's funds in insurance, loan payments, etc., etc., in Montreal, 3000 miles away.

### WALKEM SCORES VICTORIA COUNCIL

VICTORIA, April 6.—Amendments to the Municipal Act giving power to municipalities to increase the mill rate for general purposes from 20 mills to 35 mills and to increase the tax on improvements from 50 per cent to 75 per cent threw the spotlight on Victoria's financial troubles in the Legislature Tuesday.

Major George A. Walkem voiced the opinion that Victoria should be forced to seek a special charter. The amendments it sought for extraordinary circumstances were an insult to the Municipal Act and to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, he said.

### FILM QUOTA BILL PASSES IN HOUSE

VICTORIA, April 6.—Progress in cleaning up the order paper was made by the Legislature Tuesday.

Third readings were given to the Municipalities Aid Act and the Amusement Tax Act. Mr. Pattullo emphasizing former opposition with a lusty "No." The Film Quota Bill was also finally passed.

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe got the Schools Act amendments out of report stage and down for third reading.

Jack Louiet of North Vancouver spoke in favor of the Drugless Physicians bill on the second reading stage.

## Sterilize the Deficient, Borden Urges on House

VICTORIA, April 6.—Vigorous appeal to the government to carry out the recommendation of the Mental Hygiene Commission by introducing sterilization of the mentally deficient was made on the floor of the Legislature Tuesday evening by Dr. L. E. Borden, Conservative member for Nelson.

"Birth control is the most important issue in Canada," he said, emphasizing not only the economic

cost imposed upon governments, but the wastage of human life involved in perpetuating the unfit.

Many misunderstandings with regard to the problem were cleared up by the member, who is a medical practitioner in the Kootenay.

His remarks were made during discussion of the heavy appropriations for maintaining of the mental hospitals, which come under the Provincial Secretary.

## Pooley Denies Liquor Board Prices Higher

### 'Blue Dodger' Not Paid For, He Declares

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 6.—Attorney General Pooley essayed a come-back in the Legislature Tuesday against A. M. Manson's attack on the \$30,000-a-year three-man Liquor Board's administration.

The profit of 235 per cent on a particular brand as previously referred, to arose from the fact that it was seized liquor obtained from the customs for the duty, and sold at normal market price, he said.

To the statement that prices had been increased he replied there had been a reduction in January and an increase in June to take care of the new sales tax.

Head office expenses were \$81,000, not \$117,000 as claimed by Mr. Manson, he said. The ratio of administrative costs, he claimed, had never been as low as the 4.82 per cent quoted by Mr. Manson and were today 6.2 per cent not 6.49 as stated by the Liberal member.

### BLUE DODGER "NOT PAID FOR"

The \$18,000 printing cost was occasioned by getting out the first price list ever issued by the Board and the blue dodger quoting a favorable press editorial was not paid for by the Board.

"Who else would be interested in getting it out?" scoffed T. D. Pattullo. "After the experience we have had of inaccurate figures from this government we can't accept the minister's statement. He might have had the courtesy to wait until the member for Opineca is in the House."

Mr. Pattullo pointed out also that Mr. Pooley seemed to be able to get Liquor Board information when he wanted it but when members asked questions he hid behind the phrase "no official information."

G. S. Pearson said it was obvious from the maintenance of a constant operating percentage in face of increased overhead and diminished volume of business that the Board must be making more profit and he suggested it was probably through the general decline in prices which the Board had not passed on to the public.

### CHANGE IN METHOD

Mr. Pooley's claim that the loss on breakages had been reduced by the present Board was somewhat undermined when Dr. W. H. Sutherland said he had learned there had been a change in method. Formerly the cases were sent unopened to the vendors and breakages were charged to the vendors at retail prices. Now the cases are opened in the warehouse and the breakages charged at the purchase price, which was about half the retail price.

## Jobless Quiz Completed In Victoria

### Chairman Twigg to Draft Report for Presentation to House; 3 Incidents

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 6.—The unemployment committee of the Legislature concluded its hearings this morning. Chairman H. D. Twigg announced he would now proceed to draft a report. Three incidents marked the sittings.

1. A group of militia officers recommended members of the active militia who are unemployed be cared for by their units, the Government turning over to the unit the funds that would otherwise be allotted to the men.

2. Dr. W. H. Sutherland asked that further evidence regarding the McGeough episode be obtained to substantiate information he had received that both the C.P.R. and his immediate chief in the provincial government knew and gave permission to McGeough to hold the two jobs.

3. T. D. Pattullo and G. S. Pearson protested before adjournment that the committee had not carried out the duties assigned to it, and had not been furnished the information enabling the committee to pass competent judgment.

The meeting broke up in the midst of recriminations between majority and minority members of the committee.

Capt. MacGregor Macintosh, member for the Islands, introduced the militia men, saying the plan was sponsored by himself and Major S. F. Moodie of the Irish Fusiliers. Col. T. B. Monk of the 5th B. C. Coast Brigade, Canadian Artillery, and Major Sherwood Lett of the Irish Fusiliers outlined the plans. All militia units had members unemployed. The total in Vancouver and Victoria was close to 500.

The officers were now assisting to take care of them and could, if given the official relief appropriation, establish at regimental headquarters duties

and occupation for these men and provide them with food.

Sending them to relief camps disrupted the militia organization and prevented its ordinary parades and work from being carried out, they said.



## B. C. Oil Bill Denounced As Monopolistic

Would Restrict Development  
of Petroleum Fields to  
Wealthier Interests

By Sun Staff Correspondent  
VICTORIA, April 6.—Detailed criticism of the new Petroleum and Natural Gas bill sponsored before the Legislature by Hon. N. S. Loughheed went far Tuesday afternoon to substantiate the claim of T. D. Pattullo that the measure was designed to place control of B. C. oil fields in the hands of a monopoly.

Dr. R. W. Alward, Conservative member for Fort George, and Tom Uphill, Labor member for Fernie, in whose constituencies lie the potential Peace River and Flathead fields respectively, took vigorous objection to certain clauses as being onerous on prospectors and stakers who had not large financial resources.

Col. Nelson Spencer, Vancouver Conservative, came to the minister's support with the argument that oil was not a little man's game.

"Only the man with big capital can get anywhere," he said. "It takes a quarter of a million to sink a well."

Several clauses were stood over for further consideration.

The fixed royalty of 12½ cents a gallon was objected to by Mr. Pattullo, who claimed it should be either on a percentage basis or qualified by some phrase that protected the right of the Legislature to change it later if it were deemed wise.

The fixed royalty on timber had not stood the test of time, he reminded the House.

This matter is to be given further consideration, Mr. Loughheed finally agreed.

Tom Uphill persuaded the minister to stand over the requirement which limits to one year, the period within which a lessee must begin work.

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## LOUTET BLAMES MUNICIPALITIES

NORTH VANCOUVER DISTRICT.  
April 6.—Until a conference is held between the Provincial Government and municipalities to settle respective fields of taxation, these matters will continue to be a source of trouble, Jack Loutet, M.L.A., believes, according to a letter received from him by the District Council Tuesday.

The letter was in reply to one from the council registering a protest regarding the levy of social service costs on municipalities.

While expressing disagreement of the sadding of these costs on municipalities, Mr. Loutet mentions that municipalities only recently have added to the burden of taxpayers by approving fixed assessments for certain industries within their boundaries.

He stated that otest regarding the government's action regarding social service costs would have no effect now.

## MORATORIUM PLAN GETS CITY BACKING

By Sun Staff Correspondent  
VICTORIA, April 6.—Support for the out-and-out moratorium demanded by business men was received this morning from Vancouver City Council, when J. B. Williams, city solicitor, joined William Dick in formal representations to Premier Toimie.

Later they are to meet Attorney-General Pooley.

Opposition members and many Conservative members favor a complete one year moratorium on all mortgage principal. They fear that necessity of going to court and claiming destitution will vitiate the whole scheme.

The government is committed to a bill, but it does not go as far as the members favor there will be amendments moved on the floor of the House.

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## GALLERY JOTTINGS

By  
J. Edward Norcross

VICTORIA, April 7.—Signs that the beginning of the end is upon us appeared near the close of the Wednesday afternoon sitting when Messages from His Honor came pouring in, each burdened with a new bill.

The government, running true to governmental form as exemplified by every government for years past, is quite obviously preparing to push important legislation through in the well-known "dying hours of the session."

This, of course, does not apply to Mr. Loughheed's amendments to his Petroleum and Natural Gas Bill which, it will be remembered, was held back by him in committee in view of the objections voiced to fixed royalties.

Mr. Loughheed, instead of levying 12½ cents a barrel, will ask for a rate based on the value, the minimum being five per cent and ten per cent the maximum.

Supplementary Estimate

Nor, strictly speaking, is it altogether the government's fault that a supplementary estimate had to be brought down at this late hour.

The estimate makes provision for continuing the ferry service between Woodward's Landing and Ladner.

According to Mr. Jones it had been so confidently expected that the bridge would be built and so obviate the need of a ferry that the subsidy had been forgotten.

Mr. Hinchliffe's amendments to his bill amending the Elections Act, however, is in another category.

It foreshadows the division of Vancouver into three-two-member constituencies.

It is also a reminder that, even yet, the Redistribution Bill has still to make its appearance.

Income Tax Bills

Most important of all are two bills, a long one and a short one, dealing with income tax, the principal measure consolidating or rescinding previous legislation and incorporating the new proposals outlined by Mr. Jones in his Budget speech.

There are 27 pages of this latter and it runs to 62 clauses—enough to keep the House in session for a week if the Opposition should insist on discussing them all.

Oppositions over in the Old Country have been known to do just that kind of thing, by way of forcing concessions from recalcitrant governments.

It cannot be done nowadays.

The government of the day has at its command an instrument called a guillotine and when this descends, as it does at an appointed hour, the clauses that have not yet been reached are automatically passed.

Chiropractors' Bill

The afternoon began with a debate on the Chiropractors' Bill upon which, of course, every single member of the House has long since made up his mind.

Notwithstanding this Dr. Gillis, Dr. Alward and Dr. Kingston tried to make converts to their point of view which seemed to be that, while the chiropractors should have some form of legal recognition it should not be the form provided in the bill and should be of a strictly limited nature.

Mr. Loutet agreed with his medical friends that something should be done but why should it always be done next year and not this year, he asked.

He was quite indifferent as to whether people were or were not benefitted by chiropractic treatment; if they thought they were benefitted that was quite enough.

Mr. Maitland, while disapproving of some of the ways of chiropractors favored legislation if only because the advertising of unwarranted claims of a "cure-all" nature could then be restricted.

Dr. Borden moved the adjournment of the debate, but some objection was raised and a vote had to be taken.

Up the Order Paper

The House then drove steadily up the Order Paper, according to the curious fashion from bottom to top, putting through second readings with accuracy and despatch.

Asking for second reading of the bill amending the Savings and Loan Associations Act, Mr. Pooley regretted that Mr. Manson was not in the House as this was a highly technical bill which the member from Omineca would understand.

"Perhaps some of the rest of us can understand it, too," said Mr. Pattullo, and Mr. Pooley courteously, but without apparent conviction, admitted the possibility.

In committee the attorney general again explained why he had asked Ottawa to kill off provincial grand juries without consulting the House.

The judges were all agreed on it, with one exception, it appeared, but Mr. Pattullo thought the layman's point of view as important as that of the judges.

Fishing License May Die

It rather looks as if the proposal to charge one dollar for a fishing license will go by the board.

So much opposition was expressed when the bill came up in committee that Mr. Pooley hastily called the committee off.

After dinner Mr. Jones told the

House about his Income Tax Bill but Mr. Pattullo was not ready to talk about it that evening so it was taken off the boards and Supply substituted, the estimates for the attorney general's department occupying the rest of the sitting.

Business Done

First Reading: Bills amending the Village Municipalities Act and the Special Revenue Tax Act; Income Tax Bill.

First and Second Readings: Amendments to the Petroleum and Natural Gas Bill and to the bills amending the Elections Act and the Game Act; Supplementary Estimates.

Second Readings: Bills amending the Agricultural Act, the Contributory Negligence Act, the Savings and Loan Association Act, and the Teachers Pensions Act.

Reported: Bills amending the Medical Act, the Jury Act, the Conditional Sales Act, and the Bills of Sale Act.

Third Readings (April 5): Bills amending the Public Schools Act and the Coal and Petroleum Act.

LEGISLATIVE RUSH  
STARTS AT CAPITAL

VICTORIA, April 7.—Just before the Legislature adjourned for dinner Wednesday, cabinet ministers began to throw into the House some of the delayed legislation which must now be rushed through in the last minutes.

The new income tax act of 27 pages was the bulkiest and most important of these. Amendments to the Special Revenue tax bill of last year (the Jones 1 per cent tax) to implement the new measure was another.

Hon. N. S. Loughheed brought in further amendments to his Petroleum and Natural Gas bill changing the royalty from 12½ cents a gallon to "not more than 10 per cent and not less than 5 per cent" of the value of the product.

## Dr. Gillis Raps Police Moiety System

'Harmless Drunks' Arrested  
So Officer Can Collect  
Fines; 'Rotten Vicious'

VICTORIA, April 7.—The moiety system under which a police officer received a share of fines collected in his district came in for criticism in the Legislature Wednesday when Dr. J. J. Gillis, Liberal, Yale, raised the subject during discussion of the Attorney General's estimates.

Asking the Attorney General if he had, in the interests of economy, given consideration to the duplication in police work, Dr. Gillis said in some districts a municipal policeman, a provincial policeman and a Dominion policeman all worked together.

In some instances Dominion officers received a small salary and a share of fines collected in the district.

This system tended to arrests being made of harmless "drunks," whom it would be better to send home to bed, for the sake of collecting the fines.

Attorney General Pooley agreed the system was bad and agreed to write to Ottawa in criticism of it.

Hon. R. L. Maitland, K. C., described the system as vicious and rotten.

## City Council To Press for Moratorium

Finance Committee Registers  
Protest Over Failure  
of Tory Caucus to Agree

A protest against the Conservative caucus deadlock over a proposed moratorium was voiced yesterday by the Civic Finance Committee.

It passed a resolution, on motion of Ald. H. J. De Graves, authorizing civic representatives to continue pressure on Legislature members for action at the current session.

A moratorium to protect property-owners from mortgage or agreement for sale foreclosure, provided interest and taxes are kept up to date, was asked last month by Council.

RATEPAYERS MOVE

The new Ward 4 Ratepayers' Association and Chamber of Commerce revived the matter yesterday in a resolution urging aldermen to continue their efforts.

Mayor Taylor said City Solicitor J. B. Williams interviewed Premier S. F. Toimie in Victoria yesterday in this connection. In addition to this, the committee ordered a telegram sent to the solicitor instructing him to carry on the campaign.

CAUCUS DIVIDED

Ald. J. J. McRae said the caucus is reported to be split on an amendment which would provide for appeal to the Supreme Court. He flayed this proposal, holding that an impoverished debtor should not be made liable to extensive legal costs.

Interest and taxes should also be exempt, Ald. L. D. McDonald asserted. It should be a "blanket moratorium."

Mayor L. D. Taylor was in agreement but no action was taken to increase the scope of the measure sought.

# Wage Supertax Deductible From Provincial Income Tax But No Refunds Permitted

Jones Throws Light on New  
Budget Proposals; Farm  
Organizations Exempt

By Sun Staff Correspondent  
VICTORIA, April 7.—Text of the new Income Tax Act, foreshadowed in the budget speech three weeks ago, was laid before the Legislature Wednesday afternoon and appeared to follow out very closely the predictions made by the Minister of Finance at that time.

Hon. J. W. Jones moved a second reading in the evening with a detailed explanation of the new provisions and the debate was then adjourned on motion of T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader.

Mr. Jones explained that the gross income tax and special revenue tax of one per cent are discontinued and the new rates substituted. The outstanding feature is the removal of all exemptions from taxation, except on casual domestic employees such as charwomen who are paid less than \$5 for a given period of employment.

Wealthy people who keep their fortunes outside the Province are to be taxed on their outside income, it is provided, thereby bringing into the net one or two outstanding personalities whose freedom from Provincial income tax has long been a topic of public discussion.

**LEFT TO MINISTER**  
Another striking feature of the Bill is that the allowances for depreciation and depletion to be allowed in the case of industrial, mining and lumber companies is to be fixed by the Minister's discretion.

The Minister's statement on second reading follows:

Personal allowances are now made positive exemptions instead of rebates as formerly, and the exemption applicable to a married person is also extended to include a "householder."

**THE EXEMPTIONS**  
The amounts of the various exemptions are as follows:

	New Exemption
Married person, widow or widower with dependent children	\$500
Householder	\$600
Single person, widow or widower without dependent children	Nil
Dependents (each)	200
Insurance premiums paid (up to)	300
Non-residents	Nil

The exemptions under the Special Revenue Tax Act of last year are no longer applicable.

Husbands and wives who have each a separate income are entitled to one combined maximum exemption of \$500, and this, as well as the exemption for dependent children, may be claimed by either or apportioned between them.

The methods of determining net taxable income, and the deductions allowed for expenses, remain unaltered except as to minor details.

**SURTAX STILL "ON"**  
Until the passage of this Act, employers will continue to deduct 1 per cent from the wages of their employees under the provisions of last year's Special Revenue Tax Act.

But upon this Act coming into force, the exemptions of \$15 and \$25 per week will no longer apply, and employers will thereafter be required to deduct 1 per cent from the wages of all their employees.

The only exceptions being in the case of an occasional employee who is engaged in connection with the domestic establishment of his employer, if the wages for the period of employment do not exceed \$5.00, no deduction need be made.

Employers' returns of deductions made from wages will be required to be filed at the same time and in the same manner as heretofore, and any employers who have not been making returns by reason of their employees being previously exempted, should apply to the commissioner to have their names put on record to receive the appropriate forms, and thereby avoid penalties.

The tax imposed by last year's Special Revenue Tax Act constitutes the minimum tax payable on the income assessed thereunder, and no refunds of taxes paid under that Act can be made.

In future, however, deductions made by an employer from an employee's wages in excess of the tax due under the new Act will be refunded to the employee upon receipt of his return of income.

**TIME EXTENDED**  
The former conditions applicable to the time for filing returns under the Taxation Act will apply to the new Act for the present year of assessment, and in view of the uncertainty attendant upon the change of Acts, the Commissioner will exercise the authority given him to extend the time for filing returns this year to April 30th.

As forms embodying the new provisions cannot now be printed in time, returns may be submitted on the forms previously in use, and the appropriate exemptions will be applied by the assessing staff.

**STATE DEDUCTIONS**  
Everyone in receipt of any income, in excess of the exemptions stated, whether from wages or any other source, during the last preceding year is required to file a return, and forms for this purpose may be obtained at the office of any provincial assessor.

Wage earners, from whom Special Revenue Tax was deducted during 1931, should state the amount of such deductions up to December 31st, and by whom they were made, so that the proper credit may be given against any greater tax payable. All 1932 taxes will be payable on receipt of an assessment notice as formerly.

Commencing with the 1933 assessment year, taxpayers will be required to calculate their own tax, and pay at least one-quarter of the estimated amount with their returns which, in the case of everyone who is not in business, are due to be filed not later than the last day of February in each year.

The balance of the tax may be paid in three quarterly installments with interest at six per cent.

A penalty of an additional four per cent is provided for overdue payments.

Business returns will be due as usual on the last day of March.

Guarantee, trust and loan companies and public utility corporations, which were formerly exempted from taxation on their net income by reason of being otherwise taxed on their gross income under Part IX of the Taxation Act, are now made liable to the tax on net income to the extent that this tax exceeds the tax payable on their gross income.

**"OUTSIDE" INCOMES**

Under the Taxation Act, residents were not taxable on any income earned outside which was not brought into the Province; and this has been a direct encouragement for wealthy citizens and corporations to send their surplus funds outside the Province for investment, and thus avoid taxation.

Under the new clause such ex-province income will be taxable whether it is brought in or not, unless it is derived from capital invested outside before the taxpayer became a resident of the province.

But this will continue to afford exemption on income left outside the Province by persons who come here to retire, and who had their funds invested elsewhere before they came here.

## ALL FARMERS EXEMPT

The Taxation Act exempts all income from farming operations; but the income of co-operative marketing organizations was not so exempted.

The new Act reverses the former procedure and exempts income in the hands of the co-operative marketing organizations, but distributions to the farmer members will be taxable in their hands if their income exceeds \$1000.

## FILM APPEAL BOARD HIT BY WALKER

VICTORIA, April 7.—G. A. Walker started a debate on moving picture censorship in the Legislature Wednesday when he urged abolition of the appeal board.

He charged that of 14 pictures rejected by the censors this year the Appeal Board had passed 12 and at the time he got his information had not yet viewed the other two.

Attorney General Pooley admitted there had been some complaints, but said he had recently adopted a new system which would let the public know where the responsibility lay.

Films rejected by the censor and allowed by the Appeal Board must be so marked on exhibition, he announced.

## Canadians Hit Harder Than U.S. in New Tax

How the Canadian income taxpayer is hit by the new Rhodes schedules as compared with the U.S. and the British taxpayer is shown in the subjoined table which also includes the new B.C. provincial income tax.

The figures show the Canadian federal tax to be much higher than the U.S. schedule except in the higher brackets where they get much closer together.

But neither Canadian or U.S. tax compares in severity with what the British taxpayer is said to face so "cheerfully."

By adding federal and provincial figures, the B.C. taxpayer will see what his total income assessment amounts to.

The married man with wife and no other dependents is taken for the purpose of comparison. The British pound sterling is calculated at the rate of \$5.

### MARRIED PERSON WITH NO DEPENDENTS

	Canadian Federal	U.S.	British	Canadian B.C.
\$ 1,000	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 6.25	\$ 5.00
1,500	1.50	1.50	56.25	10.00
2,000	2.00	2.00	106.25	20.00
2,100	2.10	2.10	123.12	22.00
2,200	2.20	2.20	143.12	24.00
2,300	2.30	2.30	163.12	26.00
2,400	2.40	2.40	183.12	28.00
2,500	2.50	2.50	203.12	30.00
2,600	2.60	2.60	223.12	33.00
2,700	2.70	2.70	243.12	36.00
2,800	2.80	2.80	263.12	39.00
2,900	2.90	2.90	283.12	42.00
3,000	3.00	3.00	303.12	45.00
4,000	4.00	4.00	503.12	80.00
5,000	5.00	5.00	703.12	125.00
6,000	6.00	6.00	903.12	180.00
7,000	7.00	7.00	1,103.12	245.00
8,000	8.00	8.00	1,328.12	320.00
9,000	9.00	9.00	1,578.12	405.00
10,000	10.00	10.00	1,828.12	500.00
15,000	15.00	15.00	3,387.50	1,125.00
20,000	20.00	20.00	5,187.50	1,950.00
25,000	25.00	25.00	7,262.50	2,450.00
30,000	30.00	30.00	9,425.00	3,050.00
40,000	40.00	40.00	14,837.50	4,550.00
50,000	50.00	50.00	21,621.25	6,550.00
1,000,000	476,658.00	449,621.25	638,467.50	99,950.00

## Country Tory Members Despair as Caucus Sits

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 7.—With Conservative members still holding caucuses at all and sundry hours on legislation not yet submitted to the House, up-country members began to despair today lest the Legislature would fail to adjourn this week.

Vancouver city members flatly refused to remain on Saturday if there is the slightest chance of not winding up. Up-country members are almost equally determined to go home this week-end in any event.

There would be no trouble completing the agenda now before the House

by Friday night, opposition members say, but the Redistribution Bill, the Unemployment committee report, the general Taxation Act amendments of unknown import, the Moratorium Bill and probably other proposals have yet to be produced for the inspection of the members.

Premier Tolmie has announced that there will be no P.G.E. Bill this session, although it is well known that the negotiations for sale of the line are in the final stage, so that issue is not likely to arise.

The Conservative members had another long caucus this morning instead of having the House itself sit as expected.

Members of the Legislature dispute whether the Tolmie government has spent \$110,000,000 or \$150,000,000 in the last four years. The average man is much more concerned with what is to be spent in the next four years. It's his money.

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## B. C. Chiropractors' Bill Given Ministerial Support in House

By Sun Staff Correspondent.

VICTORIA, April 7.—Ministerial support was given to the Chiropractors' bill in the Legislature Wednesday when Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., urged the Legislature to bring that profession under regulation in order that abuses might be ended.

Dr. L. E. Borden, a medical opponent, succeeded, however, in continuing the delaying tactics by moving that the debate be adjourned. This time there was opposition and the Speaker had to take a show of hands. With both party leaders assenting to the adjournment the line-up was 23 to 14 on a non-party standing vote.

While Premier Tolmie stated the bill was not a government measure, the ground taken by Mr. Maitland was regarded as indicating that the government intends to see the bill through. Mr. Maitland took the position that since there had been a royal commission the House was bound to give effect to its findings.

Mr. Maitland indicated he was by no means a believer in the science of chiropractic, but said once

they were properly regulated it would be possible to put an end to abuses that might prevail.

Dr. J. J. Gillis, Dr. R. W. Alward and Dr. C. M. Kingston all spoke vigorously against the bill and Jack Loutet spoke in its favor. The medical men claimed their interest was solely that of protecting the public from a spurious cult, but Mr. Loutet said many people had been benefitted by the chiropractors and it was better to follow the example of other provinces and states by bringing them under regulation of law.

A confused situation was again created a few minutes later when the Medical Act went through committee. As originally presented to the House this bill struck out the sections in the act which give the medical council control over chiropractors.

Dr. G. K. MacNaughton, sponsor of the bill, re-introduced them Wednesday, however, and the supporters of chiropractors surprisingly did not object.

T. D. Pattullo pointed out there would be confusion if the Chiropractor bill was carried by the House, but nobody seemed to mind, not even the Attorney-General.

## Bill to Tax All Anglers Hits Snag

Pooley Withdraws Proposed Act Which Would Put Levy on Pensioners

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 7.—Under a barrage of Liberal, Labor and Conservative criticism, the Game Act amendment requiring anglers to pay an annual license fee of one dollar was withdrawn from consideration in the Legislature Wednesday afternoon by Attorney-General Pooley, with the prospect that it will undergo amendment before coming up again.

The final suggestion that seemed to impress Mr. Pooley was that old age pensioners and unemployed persons on relief be exempted.

T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, said that with all the new imposts nobody would be able to take any enjoyment without paying a tax.

### FISH FOR FOOD

Tom Uphill, Labor member for Fernie, said many miners and others in his district working for only a day or two a week were accustomed to catch fish for food.

Dr. C. H. Wrinch said he knew of several old age pensioners who required what fish they could catch to enable them to live on their \$20 a month.

Dr. C. M. Kingston, Conservative member for Grand Forks, said he believed these classes should be exempt and at his request the bill was withdrawn from further consideration for the time being.

### ASKED FOR TAX

Mr. Pooley and Capt. MacGregor Macintosh said it was the fishermen who had asked for the bill in order to make a fund for re-stocking the streams.

Dr. Wrinch said that might be advisable on Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland.

He urged that the bill be confined to that area.

Mr. Pattullo said it was not too bad to tax sportsmen for the purpose of restocking the streams, but others should not be required to pay where they needed fish for food.

## The Reducinest Reducin' Corporation (or Sumpin')



## BROKERS' CIRCULAR CITED BY PATTULLO

VICTORIA, April 7.—In support of his contention that Hon. J. W. Jones, had given the legislature misleading information, T. D. Pattullo quoted Wednesday night the advertisement of Odium, Brown & Co., selling the recent \$5,000,000 bond issue.

Mr. Jones had stated that the net debt of the Province was \$114,000,000, but the brokers circular had given it as \$118,600,000, he said.

The minister explained that this referred to February 15, whereas he had given the figure for November 1.

## Government Blocks Napier Statement

VICTORIA, April 7.—Efforts to bring before the Legislature a signed statement from Col. Ross Napier, dismissed civil service commissioner, flatly denying the truth of utterance made on the floor of the House by Hon. S. L. Howe, Provincial Secretary, were frustrated by the Government majority Wednesday evening.

Mr. Pattullo moved to reopen the vote under which Mr. Howe had made his statement. This courtesy is usually accorded when a member has new material to bring up, but in this case was summarily refused.

## Victoria Finishes Voting of Supply

VICTORIA, April 7.—Voting of supply was completed in the Legislature shortly after midnight this morning.

One small vote was left over until the Finance Minister is ready to introduce the formal supply bill, probably late today.

Continuing the policy he has adopted from the beginning of the session, T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, condensed his and his party's criticism to the minimum and facilitated one of the heaviest night's work the Legislature has ever been known to accomplish.

## MORATORIUM GETS BACKING

City Solicitor Urges Measure Like War-Time Law

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 7.—A moratorium on principal payments on account of mortgages would not meet the needs of the situation created by the depression, according to J. B. Williams, city solicitor of Vancouver, who is here advocating re-enactment of the moratorium law of war-time years.

That cities and municipalities have a special interest in such legislation was evidenced by the fact that in the year preceding the war-time moratorium, Vancouver collected but little more than half its taxes, whereas in the next year four-fifths came in, Mr. Williams said.

Vancouver, according to Mr. Williams, wants legislation postponing the payment not only of principal sums but also of interest, the former automatically, the latter for a specified period in accordance with the mortgagor's ability to pay as established in court.

## Closer Tab On Pensions To Teachers

Actuarial Examinations to  
Be Made; Grand Jury  
Bill Read Second Time

By Sun Staff Correspondent  
VICTORIA, April 7.—Every five years the board administering teachers' pensions in British Columbia is to be compelled to submit its operations to actuarial examination and to govern its future administration by the findings made.

This provision is inserted in the Teachers' Pension Act by a bill to which the Legislature gave second reading Wednesday on motion of Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, Minister of Education.

Other amendments, he said, gave the board power to act more justly in handling certain situations and more stringently in admitting persons to the list of those eligible for pension.

Second readings were given to three other short government bills. Hon. W. A. Atkinson asked to amend the Agricultural Act in conformity with Dominion legislation for the regulation of fruit pests. Hon. R. L. Maitland sought to modify the law with regard to contributory negligence on a more equitable basis as the result of decision recently given by the court of appeal.

Attorney-General Pooley put through technical amendments to the act governing Savings and Loan Associations. These provide that after the guarantee funds of an association get below a certain limit no more guaranteed stock can be issued until after the funds have been re-established. They also call for financial statements to be filed with the government inspector twice a year instead of only once.

The bill providing for the abolition of the grand jury system in British Columbia passed second reading with a warning to Attorney-General Pooley by Mr. Pattullo that the action might be regretted.

## ONE SEAT LESS PLANNED IN B.C.

Forecast of Actual Redistri-  
bution Reaches House

By Canadian Press  
VICTORIA, April 7.—B. C.'s Legislature may be reduced by one seat if present plans are embodied in amendments to the Constitution Act, which will make its appearance in the House shortly. One new seat would be added in the Peace River area, one to the Lower Mainland area by rearrangement of boundaries west of Dewdney and three seats eliminated by elision of two ridings in each case.

This would give a total membership in the Legislature of 47 compared with 48 as at present.

Forecast of the actual redistribution measure reached the House yesterday in amendments to the Provincial Elections Act, providing for a division of Vancouver into four ridings, to be known as Vancouver-Burrard, Vancouver Centre, Vancouver East and Vancouver-Point Grey.

Changes in the Provincial elections measure also provide for a simplified form of voting registration for naturalized British subjects.

## \$250,000 GRANT GOES TO U.B.C.

House Approves Sum After  
Debate by Opposition

VICTORIA, April 7.—Completing votes in the educational department last evening, the Legislature approved of a grant of \$250,000 to the University of B. C., after a debate on the issue put up by the opposition.

The grant last year was \$462,700. Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe explained the course of negotiations between the government and the governors of the university, and said that the institution had already budgeted on the basis of the reduced grant.

If the government was to keep its expenditures down, it was forced with the necessity of paring in every way, and much as it was regretted, no exception could be made in the case of the university, speakers on the government side declared.

Premier Tolmie said the government would see what could be done about matching an Empire market board grant of \$3,000.

## CHIRO BILL GETS SECOND READING ON CLOSE VOTE

Majority of One in Non-  
Party Decision; Oppon-  
ents Claim Bill Menace

Supporters Declare Medicos  
Have Lost Confidence of  
Public; 'Bill Inadequate'

By Sun Staff Correspondent  
VICTORIA, April 8.—After a whole afternoon of strenuous debate, the Chiropractors' Bill passed second reading in the Legislature Thursday afternoon by the narrowest possible majority of 22 to 21. It was not a party division. The vote was as follows:

FOR THE BILL—Tolmie, Pooley, Jones, Howe, Maitland, Twigg, Hayward, Gray, Lister, Dick, Pearson, King, Uphill, Rutledge, Carson, Loutet, M. Manson, Cornett, Shelly, Atkinson, Lougheed, W. A. McKenzie.

AGAINST THE BILL—Beatty, Schofield, MacNaughton, Michell, MacIntosh, Walkem, Spencer, Alward, A. M. Manson, Pattullo, Sutherland, Kergin, Wrinch, Kirk, Borden, Berry, Kingston, MacPherson, Hanna, Fitzsimmons.

ABSENT—Hinchliffe, Bruhn, Ruggie R. Mackenzie.

Medical members of the House supported by A. M. Manson, K.C., who made the longest speech of the debate, claimed the bill was a menace to public health.

### LARGE FOLLOWING

Premier Tolmie, who gave the final word in favor of the measure, said other provinces and states had legalized chiropractic and while he did not understand or agree with their methods he thought they should be allowed to practice so long as they were put in their proper stall. He would have a large "M.D." put on the medical men and an equally large "C" on the chiropractors.

"Medical men with their fine training need not fear competition," he said. "But under proper legislation the chiropractors may become a useful body of men in the country. Let us control them and know where to find them. Then they will not interfere with other professions. If difficulties develop the legislation can be amended from time to time."

T. D. Pattullo, Opposition leader, agreed that the chiropractors' large following showed they must be doing some good, but he did not consider the Government had given the commission a sufficiently wide scope to enlighten the House as to the qualifications of chiropractors. He did not consider the bill as drafted adequately protected public health and could not support it.

H. D. Twigg was the chief spokesman for the bill. Much of the opposition was based on out-of-date information, he said, but today the chiropractors were required to conform to just as high standards as medical men.

He charged that the medical men refused to find out anything about chiropractic and paralleled the situation with the scoffing and persecution that was directed at Pasteur when he discovered the germ theory.

G. S. Pearson censured the Government for not making the scope of the Murphy commission broader so as to enlighten doubtful members as to the fundamental worth of chiropractic science, but said the bill could not possibly do the harm suggested, as the chiropractors were already practicing.

The medical profession had not organized itself to render its maximum service or even 25 per cent of its maximum service to public health and the public had lost confidence in the medical profession.

## MORATORIUM BILL TABLED AT VICTORIA

Vancouver Solicitor Starts  
Drive to Have Scope of  
Bill Broadened

By Canadian Press  
VICTORIA, April 8.—Unless something unforeseen presents the B. C. Legislature will prorogue Tuesday.

The House will not sit tomorrow and it is expected the red paper will be cleared up at today's and Monday's sittings ready for the visit of the Lieutenant Governor Tuesday.

By Sun Staff Correspondent  
VICTORIA, April 8.—Attorney General Pooley's so-called

Moratorium Bill, founded on the Ontario Act, was laid before the Legislature late Thursday night and immediately precipitated a storm. The bill contains no absolute moratorium of any kind. Its maximum effect is this:

Where interest and taxes on a mortgaged property have been paid the lender may not institute the ordinary foreclosure proceedings arising from default of principal payments without obtaining leave of the court. But even in these cases no rule for the guidance of the court is laid down and the householder is put to the expense of a double court procedure which may result adversely to him.

It is provided, however, that on small mortgages of \$3000 or less the court costs for the preliminary application are limited to \$25.

Bitter hostility to the bill on account of its exceedingly limited scope was expressed in many quarters as soon as the text of the measure had been examined.

J. B. Williams, Vancouver City solicitor, acting under instructions of the City Council, immediately set foot a drive to have the scope of the bill broadened. He advocates revival of the 1916 moratorium which affected both principal and interest, and which worked so well that fully 75 per cent of the agreements which were suspended in the war years were ultimately paid up in full.

Mr. Williams was acting under instructions from Mayor L. D. Taylor when he protested against the limited scope of the proposed moratorium. His Worship stated today.

The man whose home is mortgaged should not have to keep up his interest and tax payments before seeking protection under the Act, the Mayor declared.

The city, he said, would be willing to forego its taxes in order to help out a citizen who has been unable to get work. Three years' arrears are allowed now before the city seizes a home for taxes and a fourth year would make little difference, he continued.

This view has never been endorsed officially by the City Council, but the Mayor said he was willing to take responsibility for Mr. Williams' activities.

The Council has favored a moratorium along the lines of the Ontario Act.

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## No Room For Gang Methods Says Pooley

Attorney General Charges Victoria Chief of Police Was Threatened in House

VICTORIA, April 8.—Immediate abolition of the present Police Board in Victoria, consequent on a complaint made to him by Magistrate George Jay, and permissive adoption of the Ontario three-man system in other parts of the Province was recommended by Attorney General Pooley in the Legislature yesterday, speaking to proposed amendments to the Municipal Act which would bring these changes about.

Attorney General Pooley told the Legislature flatly that a very grave assertion had been made in respect to actions alleged to have been taken by two of the three Police Commissioners in this city, expressly exempting the Mayor from his remarks.

His information was that the course of the law had been interfered with, not once, but on more than one occasion, and that Chief of Police, Thomas Heatley, had been taken out to a private house on one occasion and told that he would have the "shirt taken off his back, as had happened to his predecessor."

There was no room in B. C. for Chicago methods, and it was proposed to take immediate action to remedy the situation in so far as Victoria was concerned, Mr. Pooley continued.

Arising just before the supper recess, the Attorney General asked leave to introduce amendments to the Municipal Act, and made his explanation.

## B.C. PLANS TO SELL REVERTED LANDS

VICTORIA, April 8.—The Provincial Elections Act passed second reading in the Legislature Thursday evening with T. D. Pattullo, Opposition leader, intimating he would have more to say about them in the committee stage.

New amendments to the Taxation Act introduced by Hon. J. W. Jones, Minister of Finance, cancelled sections of the Act referring to the special revenue tax for which the new income tax is now substituted.

It also provided for licensing real estate agents to sell reverted lands.

Provision was made for a five-mill tax for educational purposes on land outside a school district.

## RELIEF LOAN BILL Tabled in House

VICTORIA, April 8.—Hon. J. W. Jones, Minister of Finance, tabled the "Unemployment Relief" bill in the Legislature late Thursday evening.

Not only does it validate the province's borrowings from the Dominion and the municipalities' borrowings from the province for unemployment purposes during the past year, but it provides that future borrowings may be made in the same way for the same purpose without the ordinary safeguards, such as endorsement by the ratepayers.

## B.C. Redistribution Bill Gives Another Seat to Vancouver

House Membership Cut to 47; Indemnity to \$1800; Peace River, New Constituency; Columbia, Alberni Merged Into Old Ridings; Nelson, Creston Combine

By C. NORMAN SENIOR

VICTORIA, April 9.—British Columbia's next Legislature will consist of 47 instead of the present 48 members and they will receive \$1800 a year instead of \$2000 as sessional indemnities.

Such is the effect of the Redistribution Bill tabled in the House Friday afternoon by Hon. Joshua Hinchcliffe.

Vancouver will have nine members, sitting two for Vancouver Centre, two for Vancouver-Burrard, two for Vancouver East and three for Vancouver-Point Grey.

Victoria retains its present four members.

There is a new constituency of Peace River.

Alberni constituency is divided between Comox and Nanaimo, which latter is now to be known as Alberni-Nanaimo.

Columbia is divided between Revelstoke and Cranbrook.

Nelson and Creston are combined.

These last three reductions are offset by the two increases, one in Peace River and one in Vancouver, the net change being a reduction of one in the size of the House.

The boundaries of all but half a dozen constituencies have been subjected to minor changes.

### NEW CITY BOUNDARIES

Vancouver's new constituencies are as follows:

Vancouver Centre: That portion of the city lying north of False Creek and Terminal Avenue and west of Victoria Drive.

Vancouver Burrard: That portion of the city lying between False Creek and Sixteenth Avenue on the north and south and between Alma Road and Victoria Drive on the east and west.

Vancouver East: That portion of the city lying west of Burnaby municipality from Burrard Inlet to the Fraser River, and bounded on the west by Victoria Drive from the Inlet to Sixteenth Avenue and by Fraser Avenue from Sixteenth Avenue to the river.

Vancouver-Point Grey: Bounded on the south by the Fraser River and on the north by English Bay as far east as Alma Road, and from Alma Road to Fraser Street by Sixteenth Avenue.

The boundary streets in the new Vancouver line up are Terminal Avenue between Vancouver Centre and Vancouver Burrard, Victoria Drive at the easterly end of those two constituencies, Alma Road at the westerly end of Burrard, Sixteenth Avenue between Burrard and Vancouver-Point Grey, Fraser Street between Vancouver-Point Grey and Vancouver East.

### SHIFTED TO DELTA

Lulu Island and Sea Island are shifted from Richmond-Point Grey into Delta.

Burnaby loses that portion of the city of Vancouver now within the electoral district of Burnaby and is extended eastward to the Pitt Bridge, taking in Port Moody and Coquitlam, which formerly belonged to Dewdney.

New Westminster is extended eastward to take in Fraser Mills and D. L. 16, lying between Fraser Mills and the city.

Dewdney is extended eastward to make up for the losses to New Westminster and Burnaby. Agassiz and Hope, formerly in Yale, are now to be part of Dewdney.

### NORTH VANCOUVER UNCHANGED

North Vancouver is unchanged. Chilliwack is extended to the east as far as Silver Creek and takes Rosedale from Yale.

Yale is shortened on every side. In addition to the changes already mentioned it loses the main line territory from Ashcroft to Lytton, which territory is transferred to Lillooet. Yale is now confined practically to the Nicola and Coquihalla valleys, with a practically uninhabited bit of the Skagit added.

Lillooet loses in the west for what it gained in the east. All the west Howe Sound territory, from Woodfibre south is taken out of Lillooet, and added to Mackenzie, which is now extended south from Jervis Inlet to take in Sechart, Roberts Creek and West Howe Sound.

Mackenzie, however, loses the inaccessible inland cattle country over the height of land to Cariboo.

### PRINCE RUPERT REMAINS

Prince Rupert and Atlin are unchanged, in spite of many rumors that the former was to be greatly enlarged.

Skeena and Omineca are virtually unchanged, except that Telkwa is taken out of Skeena and added to Omineca.

Fort George is cut in half by the setting up of the new constituency of Peace River, the southwestern boundary of which is the summit of the Rockies. Fort George is compensated for this loss by being extended eastward to the Alberta boundary along the Canadian National, taking in Red Pass and other points formerly in Salmon Arm constituency.

The upper North Thompson part of Salmon Arm is now attached to Kamloops and Salmon Arm acquires the Eagle Creek country on the east to compensate for its losses in the north.

### REVELSTOKE CHANGES

Revelstoke loses Eagle Creek on the west and Arrowhead on the south, but

is extended along the main line of the C.P.R. to take in Golden and Field.

Columbia riding disappears. The Golden territory goes into Revelstoke and all the valley from Spillimacheen south is appended to Cranbrook. Fernie is unchanged. Cranbrook gets the addition from Columbia already mentioned.

Creston and Nelson are combined under the name of Nelson. Kaslo-Slocan is extended up the Arrow Lakes to take in Arrowhead and loses Riordan and Crawford Bay to Nelson.

Roseland-Trail is unchanged except to pick up Columbia Gardens from Creston.

### GEOGRAPHER'S IMPROVEMENTS

Grand Forks-Greenwood, North and South Okanagan and Similkameen are practically unchanged except for some geographer's improvements in the boundaries to conform to heights of land.

On Vancouver Island Victoria, Esquimalt and Saanich are unchanged. Cowichan-Newcastle acquires Gabriola and Valdes Islands from The Islands constituency and surrenders South Wellington to the new constituency of Alberni-Nanaimo. Alberni is divided between Comox and the new district. The northern part of the island from Kyquoot on the west coast is taken from Alberni and added to Comox. A small bit of Alberni on the southwest goes into Cowichan-Newcastle.

## Hamilton Mentioned For Board

Friends Would Have Him Appointed With Twigg But There's No Vacancy

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 9.—Not only is H. D. Twigg, M.L.A., chairman of the Legislature's unemployment investigation committee, to be made chairman of the Workmen's Compensation Board shortly but there is a strong drive to have R. J. Hamilton, former Conservative candidate in Burrard, named as the employers' representative on the board.



R. J. Hamilton "The lumber industry is said to have come into a clash with Hugh Gilmour, who has been the representative industrialist on the board since 1917."

Other branches of industry, however, are not criticizing him.

The Hamilton suggestion has not been received enthusiastically in all quarters, as Mr. Hamilton has been a storm centre in internal Conservative party feuds for the past couple of years.

In view of this situation it is very doubtful that the appointment will be made.

### TERM NOT ENDING

There is another bar. It is understood in the case of E. H. S. Winn, K.C., the present chairman, that ill-health necessitates his retirement.

But Mr. Gilmour's term has two of three years to run and under the Workmen's Compensation Act members of the board are not dismissable except by resolution of the Legislature itself.

Unless Mr. Gilmour is willing to resign, of which there is no hint, he can be disposed of only in one of two ways.

A resolution of the House, if the Legislature were willing to take so drastic a step against an official whose integrity has not been questioned, might be introduced in the next day or two.

### WANTS ONE-MAN BOARD

Or, the Act might be amended.

Mr. Twigg, the proposed new chairman, is in favor of a one-man administration, with a consultative board meeting only about once a week to consider board principles of administration.

The relations would be that between a board of directors and men managers.

If Mr. Twigg is to be appointed on this basis the Act may be amended before the House prorogues and the term of the present two commissioners, Hugh Gilmour and Parker Williams, automatically ended by changing the nature of their positions.

The suggestion is that the associate commissioners would receive only about \$1200 or \$1500 a year instead of the present substantial salaries.

## 'UNCONSTITUTIONAL' OIL BILL REVIVED

VICTORIA, April 9.—Presentation of the fuel oil tax bill to the Legislature Friday night disclosed that the Government intends to use the 1930 Act put through by Hon. W. C. Shelly, but never proclaimed.

The new bill simply makes minor amendments to the 1930 act. Persons sued for tax are required to prove how much oil they used and the tax is made alternative to the special railway tax, the latter will not be collected.

Where logging engines are required to use oil to protect forests from fire the tax will not apply.

## GALLERY JOTTINGS

By J. Edward Norcross

VICTORIA, April 9.—We are all straight with His Majesty for another year.

The long legislative process begun when Mr. Jones moved, ever so far back in the distant past, that "the Speaker do now leave the chair" was completed on Friday evening.

Only one item of supply remained to be voted, appropriately enough that for our own indemnities and the expenses of running this legislative machine.

We disposed of J. Edward Norcross in short order.

Then Mr. Jones got the Speaker back into the Chair again and got him out again almost immediately, as we went into Committee of Ways and Means and voted His Majesty a lump sum of twenty-four millions odd for this year and a million or more to enable him to meet some little accounts that had been overlooked last year and the year before.

This all had to be embodied in a bill which went through first, second and third readings in so many seconds and then we all applauded—for the budget was done with for another year.

### Victoria Blank Cheque

If it must be either blank cheque or special warrant, then Mr. Manson prefers that the government should have a blank cheque to fill in for the money it needs to deal with unemployment relief during the current financial year.

It will be better, however, he told Mr. Jones during the afternoon sitting, if the government were to take power to borrow a stated sum—he was not particular how large, but a stated sum and not an unlimited one.

It did not please either Mr. Manson or Mr. Pattullo that the money was to be borrowed from the Dominion of Canada.

Mr. Pattullo feared that it meant subservience to Ottawa and Mr. Manson was not sure that Ottawa would lend very much, anyway.

### Debate Begins Quietly

The debate, which was on second reading of the Unemployment Relief bill began quietly enough.

Mr. Jones explained that the bill was brought in to validate what had already been done, and also to provide for the contingencies of the future.

Mr. Pattullo's tone was one more of sorrow than of anger and had he not declared that the government's short-term financing was the cause of much of its pecuniary difficulty the debate might have come to a swift conclusion.

But Mr. Maitland could not let that pass and Mr. Manson could not let what Mr. Maitland said pass, and by the time Mr. Manson had done talking about government deficits, which he placed at \$10,000,000 for the last fiscal year (his arithmetic seemed to be \$9,000,000, admitted by Mr. Jones, and \$7,000,000, insisted on by himself) it became necessary for the government to rush the heavy artillery into action. Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Hinchliffe hurled shells (mark 1921) into the opposing lines.

### A Word for Socialism

Mr. Uphill took advantage of the opportunity to put in a word for Socialism as the one remedy for provincial ill and, Mr. Pearson having closed the debate, the bill was accorded second reading, the opposition agreeing that, under the circumstances, there was nothing else to be done.

After this, and recalling its ex-

perience with the Chiropractors bill on Thursday, the House had no heart to discuss the Drugless Healers bill which went to a division without a word of debate and was defeated in a thin House by 24 to 9.

All the opposition members present voted in the affirmative, all but three of the government members being recorded in the negative.

### Left in Committee

When Mr. Hinchliffe brought in his bill amending the Elections Act several weeks ago it contained a section ordaining that naturalized voters should be marked with a large "N" on the voters' lists.

Strong objection was taken to this at the time, and when the bill went into committee Friday afternoon Mr. Hinchliffe offered an amendment cancelling the offending clause.

A great many new amendments were inserted but, since the bill is linked with the Redistribution bill, Mr. Hinchliffe accepted Mr. Pattullo's advice and left it in committee until that measure is dealt with.

### Victoria Loses Commission

Mr. Pooley's amendments to the bill amending the Municipal Act precipitated the second debate of a sitting that otherwise was marked by the steady grinding of the legislative mill as measures were advanced another stage or two.

Under the bill, Victoria loses its present police commission but other cities and municipalities are left to say for themselves whether they will keep their commissions or accept new ones on the Pooley pattern—a very good pattern, too.

The opposition thought Victoria should not be singled out and that the Victoria city council should be permitted to deal with the situation.

The discussion was long and somewhat acrimonious.

### Maitland Backs Pooley

Mr. Maitland rather distinguished himself in defense of the attorney general and had some strong things to say about the situation in Vancouver, not as it is at present, but as it has been more than once in the past.

Near the end of it Mr. Pooley produced documents showing that the mayor and council of Victoria cordially approved what he was doing.

This rather knocked the bottom out of the opposition case, but, as Mr. Pattullo asked, why didn't Mr. Pooley say so at first?

### One Seat Reduction

By way of concluding a somewhat dreary afternoon, rendered more dreary because all hope of finishing this week had dropped far below the horizon, Mr. Hinchliffe brought in a bill to amend the Constitution Act, the long-expected Redistribution bill which reduces the membership of the Legislature by exactly one seat. It passed first reading.

After dinner, having disposed of supply as related above, the House turned again to bills. The Unemployment Relief bill was put through committee and read a third time. The many-clause Income Tax Act was tackled by way of winding up the evening and the week.

### Business Done

First reading: Bills amending the Mothers' Pensions Act, the Liability of Municipalities Act, the Constitution Act and the Fuel Tax Act.

Second reading: Bills amending the Village Municipalities Act, the Taxation Act and the Superannuation Act; bill respecting Unemployment Relief.

Reported: Bills amending the Municipal Act and the Village Municipalities Act.

Third reading: Bill respecting Petroleum and Natural Gas; bill amending the Agricultural Act; Unemployment Relief bill.



## 'Shameless Evasion At Victoria Probe'

Malignant Growths of Pointless Expenditures Weakening Economic Fabric, Says Major Harold Brown

Injection of a high standard of humor in a gigantic effort to eliminate sullen discontent, then fearless non-party community effort to solve the major crisis of unemployment, were advocated by Major Harold Brown, Board of Trade president, Friday, to Vancouver Real Estate Exchange members in Hotel Georgia.

"There is not the slightest reason to lose our sense of humor. We should radiate good humor. It isn't 'British' to yield to an economic depression. The problem isn't so crushing for such a province as ours," he said, in estimating that 80 per cent of Canadians are remuneratively employed.

"The basic weakness of the economic fabric," he considered, were "malignant growths of pointless expenditures," which "degrade the human character," he stated.

### 'TRUTH DISTORTED'

"The gorgeous spectacle in Victoria of the so-called probe—at \$200 a day—in which if anyone spoke the truth he would be crucified," exemplifies the policy "to drift," he contended.

"I was treated to a spectacle of 'shameless evasion,' and witnessed a 'careful plan of distorting truth,' he recited.

"Imagine if you can this policy of drift. It makes it appear our potentialities have failed us. Relief, as we know it today, shows no moral value. We know a drain is going on pointlessly, in administering this form of relief.

"The session is rapidly closing after a lot of ridiculous discussion, some of no consequence. Can you point to

one constructive suggestion?" he asked of members.

There was no response. Major Brown contended there is a "lack of depth of thought and precautionary foresight, which alone can save us."

After prorogation of the provincial house, issuance of orders and claim for sustenance will still be necessary.

### ACTION NEEDED

"Are we to sit down and allow this drain of capital to continue? This unemployment phenomenon has got to be handled by the community," he argued.

He then outlined highlights of the land settlement scheme advanced before the government by Vancouver Board of Trade.

"Highly worthy people, suddenly confronted with loss of earning power—heads of households—must be diverted to other forms of economic usefulness. We have gone astray. We have long since passed the point of saturation (as regards local unemployed relief work expenditures) and it is too heavy a burden to hold, unless the population is progressive," he stated.

"What are you going to do about the unemployed head of a household? There must be some form of community land settlement. It would encourage the best form of education, retain moral values and stop despondency," he contended.

"We are not concerned about the details but want government consent to a land settlement scheme under non-political control," Major Brown said, in relating advantages of community effort to re-establish unemployed on a self-supporting basis.

## Manson Attacks Lt.-Gov. Exemption

Officers and Men at Sea, Persons Having Servants to Pay Income Tax

By Sun Staff Correspondent  
VICTORIA, April 9.—Committee discussion of the new Income Tax Act shed a lot of light on how the measure will affect various classes of people.

A. M. Manson, K.C., pointed out that the exemption of the Lieutenant Governor covered not only his official salary but his whole income. He would remove this long-standing exemption, he said.

Hon. J. W. Jones said the Lieutenant Governor had to do a lot of entertaining and there were few applicants for the position. Mr. Manson said the exemption had been worth \$35,000 a year to one governor of B. C. and he was not sure the office was necessary in any event.

### SEAMEN MUST PAY

H. F. Kergin elicited from the minister that officers and men on ships were to be charged income tax on the shipping company's estimate of the value of board and room furnished them when at sea.

"These men are mostly married and maintain homes," said Mr. Kergin. "Why should they be doubly taxed in this way."

Dr. W. H. Sutherland elicited that persons having domestic servants had not only to make monthly returns on

the salaries paid to these employees, but had to assess the value of room and board and pay a tax on the value of the board.

"Why not let them do it once a year instead of having to send in about 50 cents a month," he suggested.

### DOMESTIC SERVANTS INCLUDED

A. M. Manson suggested that domestic servants be left out on account of the inconvenience of collection.

T. D. Pattullo pointed out that all persons, male and female, regardless of age, were taxpayers.

"Even a Hisping baby of five years if he happens to earn a few dollars is to be taxed," he commented. "This tax reaches out even to the little newspaper merchants who deliver our papers and makes them taxpayers."

Mr. Jones said the elimination of exemptions affecting trust and loan companies and utility corporations would in some cases increase their taxation by 50 per cent.

He also claimed that married people with two dependents will be paying less than last year.

"But a lot more than in 1928," added Dr. H. C. Winch, who also objected to the maximum stopping at 10 per cent for those in receipt of more than \$19,000 income.

**B.C. \$25,073,974  
Supply Bill Passes**

By Sun Staff Correspondent  
VICTORIA, April 9.—The supply bill gathering all the estimates together into one lump sum was finally put through the Legislature with all the customary ritual Friday evening. With the supplementaries added in the total sum voted for current expenditure purposes is \$25,073,974.95.

## MAKING

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## MAKE IT A REAL MORATORIUM

The moratorium bill which the Tolmie government has laid before the Legislature gets nowhere. The bill says that when taxes and interest have been paid the lender must have permission of the court to proceed for foreclosure on principal. It does not protect the home owner against court expenses.

In other words, the bill merely puts into words what has been practically in effect already. If British Columbia's moratorium is to protect it must:

1. Make the moratorium absolute as to principal.
2. Place the onus of court costs on the mortgagee—the one who seeks to foreclose.

Government mismanagement and high taxes have helped put many people in a precarious position. Is government now going to force these people down to Oriental standards of living, when all this country needs is time to cash in on its resources and to recuperate from the sins of the past?

Surely the government, no matter how timorous it has become on this question, must know that the demand for a moratorium is universal, and that its application is no stigma on British Columbia.

Surely the Legislature has sufficient of the spark of statesmanship to realize that without some temporary relief, chaotic conditions may shortly rob hundreds of respectable citizens of their business and homes, built through years of diligence and hard work and saving.

What British Columbia needs is a breathing spell which will stop withdrawal of funds from this province. It needs a definite moratorium without loopholes, threats and uncertainties.

Refusal of such relief implies a doubt in the future ability of this province to repay. Granting of it is a vote of confidence in British Columbia.

## Yes, Yes Men

Editor, Vancouver Sun:—The Legislative Commission now being held to investigate relief workings, and which, to be of any benefit, should be absolutely non-partisan, is nothing but a farce, since the chairman, Mr. Twigg, apparently, will permit no witnesses or questions which may prove that mismanagement has been prevalent and expenditure extravagant.

Recent speeches of Mr. Harold Brown and Mr. Kidd show the way the wind is beginning to blow, and that some of us, at least, are awake to the fact that we have been entirely too complacent and too much like sheep in following the leaders, not caring where we were taken, and now realize that we are perilously close to the brink of a financial precipice, so close that it is going to be a difficult matter to get away.

The Hon. Mr. Pattullo was quick to see this, without delay and on the first opportunity, he enunciated his platform for the next election, and it would appear to have been copied from Mr. Brown's speech. We have, however, to our cost many times found that pre-election pledges are simply that, and that when in power are, like pie-crust, easily broken.

There is only one hope for British Columbia. That is a Coalition Government, the same nature as has been found effective in Great Britain. But while Great Britain has able leaders, who are big enough—mentally—to drop all political differences and work only for the good of their country, can British Columbia do the same? Have we in British Columbia a man able and big enough to lead this province out of its slough of debt, etc.?

From their past and present records it would not appear that any of the leading members of our present legislature have sufficient ability, and if they have the ability are unable to forget partisanship and are too much "yes, yes" men to their constituents.

For leadership a man of large calibre, in fact, a man big enough to be called a statesman, like Mr. Meighen, Mr. Dunning or our own Mr. Bowser.

For attorney-general is required a man of very high legal attainments and who is not a professional politician. We have in Vancouver an eminent King's Counsel who can, I believe, fill this arduous position very ably. This gentleman has practically retired from active practice, never has been a political candidate, he has retained the confidence and friendship of all clients, and has been president of a royal commission.

The resolution passed by the Alberni Board of Trade and published on the 23rd ult., was excellent in so far as the numerical proportion of members is concerned, but if federal members also acted as provincial members, there is no doubt but that party politics would continue. It would therefore be preferable for the B.C. Legislature to contain the same number of members as she is allowed in the Federal House and elected to the same constituencies, but different persons.

Until such time as we have those in authority strong enough to turn down every Tom, Dick and Harry who wants money for this or that road or some other favor, until that time arrives we shall never be able to economize, and the sooner all of us come to realize this, the sooner will taxes stop raising and commence to slide downward.

Comparisons are said to be odious, but it does cause thought when one remembers that the city of Manchester, with 1,500,000 persons, is allowed two members, and the city of Liverpool practically the same. If these cities were allowed the same representation as Vancouver, they would then have about 30 members each.

Ambleside, B. C.

D. R. W. MacDONALD.

Saturday, April 9, 1932.

## Drugless Healers' Bill Thrown Out

### Number of Members Leave House as Protest When Vote Is Called

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 9.—The Drugless Healers' bill proposing to give these practitioners power to regulate their own professional activities was defeated by an overwhelming majority in the Legislature Friday afternoon, and it is now reported that the Chiropractors' bill, which squeezed through by a vote of 22 to 21 the previous day is to be emasculated in committee.

The medical fraternity and their supporters are organizing for a tremendous onslaught upon the various clauses of the bill, and it is understood that the government has lost enthusiasm since making its gesture of unanimous ministerial support the other day.

The absence of one or two members is enough to defeat the bill in committee, and it is rumored that it will be impossible to keep the original majority in line.

Supporters of the Drugless Healers' bill are said to be hostile as a result of the defeat of their measure, and it is hinted they may take vengeance on the chiropractors.

When the Drugless Physicians' bill was called there was no further debate, but William Dick, the mover, asked for a division. A number of members immediately left the House and the bill was defeated by 24 to 9.

FOR THE BILL: Dick, Pattullo, Louiet, R. Mackenzie, Rutledge, Uphill, King, Pearson, MacPherson.

AGAINST THE BILL: Hinchliffe, Pooley, Jones, Howe, Mailland, Hayward, Walkem, Spencer, Heggie, Alward, Macintosh, Mitchell, MacNaughton, M. Manson, Schofield, Beatty, Shelly, Atkinson, Loughheed, Kergin, Kirk, Berry, Kingston, Carson.

ABSENTEES: Tolmie, W. A. McKenzie, Cornett, Twigg, Gray, A. M. Manson, Sutherland, Wrinch, Lister, Borden, Fitzsimmons, Henna, Gillis and Bruhn (now in Ottawa).

Eight of these had voted against the chiropractor bill, and were understood to have absented themselves out of protest to the governmental tactics of making a gesture in favor of the chiropractors, while endeavoring to defeat the Drugless Healers' measure.

## Budget Plan Followed In Social Service Levy

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 9.—The Vancouver-Victoria scheme to modify the effect of Hon. J. W. Jones' budgetary proposal to charge mothers' pensions and social service costs against the municipalities has been turned down. Hon. S. L. Howe Friday tabled the two bills imposing half the cost of mothers' pensions and certain fixed charges for occupants of provincial institutions upon the municipalities of their origin and the measures were found to follow the original budget scheme. The minister explained the bills on second reading and debate was adjourned by T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader.

### SAY IN ADMINISTRATION

In the case of mothers' pensions he stated that since the municipalities were to pay half the cost for pensioners domiciled in their boundaries they should have a say in administration.

This has been arranged by requiring that original applications must

be made to the municipal officials who are required to investigate and pass the application on to the government's Superintendent of Welfare with their recommendation.

Domicile is to be determined by the original domicile of the applicant, and in case of dispute, the inspector of municipalities is to arbitrate.

### MANY ABUSES UNCOVERED

The minister stated that as a result of the Charlotte Whitton investigation many abuses had been uncovered and it was now proposed to go into every case and put an end to such abuses. But where the pensioner was entitled to benefit there would be no reduction in amount, he stated.

Small municipalities whose total revenue is less than \$5000 will not be required to pay for pensioners in their territory.

## ANGLER LICENSE IS EXPERIMENT

British Columbia's dollar license for anglers is just an experiment, the B.C. Anglers' Association was told in an address last night by Byron Williams, provincial game commissioner.

The license would undoubtedly be passed by the Legislature this session, he said, but fishermen need not waste time worrying whether their money would be diverted to other than sport purposes.

He said, Attorney General E. H. Pooley well understands the anglers support the charge only on that basis. It was "unthinkable" the money should go to general revenue, he added.

Mr. Williams announced the government had already voted his department about \$2000 to get going on the fish-rearing ponds planned in conjunction with the license collections.

The license would not raise a large amount of money, he said. Exemption of persons fishing in tidal waters reduced the possible yield by half, he explained. In addition, boys under 18 and women will not have to take out licenses.

If the Provincial Government finds the rearing ponds cannot be operated satisfactorily on the limited returns of the licenses, Mr. Williams said arrangements could possibly be made for the Dominion to conduct the work at their hatcheries on a fee basis.

## GALLERY JOTTINGS

By J. Edward Norcross

VICTORIA, April 11.—To the superficial observer the process of putting a bill through committee must seem rather haphazard.

To begin with the Speaker leaves the Chair after appointing a member to sit as chairman.

This gentleman does not, however, take the sacred Chair of the Speaker but sits at a desk some distance from the foot of the Speaker's dais.

"Committee order," he says.

"Bill 58 — J. Edward Norcross clause two—shall clause two pass?"

—contrary?—carried.

"Clause three—shall clause three pass?—contrary? carried..." and so on to the end, winding up with "Shall the preamble pass"—for some reason the preamble, which is the first clause, is always taken last—"Shall the title pass? Contrary? Carried."

### Bills Never Read as Whole

Then the member in charge of the bill moves that the committee rise and report the bill complete, with or without amendments, as the case may be.

If there have been no amendments the House, the Speaker being back in the Chair again, may forthwith adopt the report and give the bill third reading and that is the end of it.

It follows that, since a bill is passed by title only on the first, second and third readings, it is never read as a whole at all.

This would not have done for the late John Oliver.

Mr. Oliver insisted that in committee, at least, every word of a bill that it was proposed to enact into law should be read out to the House.

The unfortunate chairman in those days, therefore, had to read

every section of a bill in full and a terrific gabble some chairmen made of it.

It was so arduous a performance that if the bill were a long one reliefs had to take the chair one after another.

### Methods Not So Casual

The present method, however, is not so casual as it seems.

To begin with every bill that comes before the House has been submitted to the law department before it reaches committee stage.

In the second place the government takes so much the more responsibility for the legislation it is putting through.

Moreover, no matter how purely technical and how much a matter of routine a bill may be, there are always one or two members who are interested in it.

These check off the clauses as the chairman enumerates them and when one is reached about which there is any question explanations are asked for and, if these are not quite satisfactory, the section may be reserved for further consideration.

### Vital Clauses Discussed

It must be remembered, too, that the principle of the bill has been debated at length on second reading and that discussion in committee will be limited to vital clauses modification or abandonment of which may be sought.

On the whole, however, it may appear to an uninitiated spectator in the galleries, there is no reason to fear that legislation is being put through without ample consideration.

### Completing Bills

When a bill is not completed in committee at any given sitting the committee rises, reports progress and asks leave to sit again.

If it did not carry out this formula the bill would be killed there and then.

This happened a few years ago to a Vancouver bill, much to the disgust of the civic authorities who had had assurances from the government that, although not formally adopted as a government measure, it would be seen safely through its several stages.

Being a private bill the party whips were off duty, so it came about that when a member who was opposed to the bill moved simply that the committee rise he was able to carry his motion, and that was that.

### Chiropractors Must Guard

In view of the narrow majority by which second reading was carried, the supporters of the Chiropractors' bill will have to guard against a similar contretemps.

During committee members wander in and out of the House and as the whips will not be on guard an opponent of the measure, should he note that the supporters happen at any moment to be in a minority, may have the bill thrown into the discard in exactly this way.

One or two bills have yet to be brought down but not more than twenty will have to be dealt with or, in the alternative, permitted to die on the order paper and of these only three or four are likely to take up much time.

The expectations are that the business of the session will be advanced so far during today's two sittings that only some odds and ends will remain to be cleared up Tuesday morning.

Prorogation should take place about midday.



## MAJOR BROWN REITERATES HIS CHARGES

'Nothing to Withdraw,' He Informs Relief Enquiry: Liberals Abandon Report

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 11. — Major Harold Brown, President of the Vancouver Board

of Trade appeared before the Unemployment Committee of the Legislature this morning in response to the telegraphed demand of the Chairman, H. D. Twigg, and stood firmly behind his statement made before the Real Estate Bureau last Friday that the enquiry was a "shameless evasion and distortion of the truth."

### CONSIDERED OPINION

He apologized for any implication that might be contained upon the personal honor of individual members of the committee, but stated that he impugned the whole political atmosphere of the proceedings.

"I stick to my statement and withdraw nothing," he said. "That is my considered opinion."

He stated that the detailed evidence which would have made it possible to ascertain whether there had been extravagance and waste had not been produced, and that in a political committee no Government employee dare speak the truth or his job would be in jeopardy.

Questioned on this he said he did not necessarily mean that Government officials had told untruths, but the whole truth had not been obtained from them.

### NOT SUITABLE TRIBUNAL

He took in both political parties when he said a committee of the Legislature was not a suitable tribunal to hold an enquiry of this sort, where the reputation of the Government was at stake.

After Major Brown was dismissed from the committee, the members went into camera to consider the draft report which had been prepared by the chairman. The Liberal members withdrew along with Mr. Pattullo.

T. D. Pattullo announced that he had taken the stand that the terms of the resolution calling for a full investigation had not been carried out in any degree. The evidence was not before the committee and he did not consider he could be of any assistance in drafting a report under those circumstances. The other Liberal members withdrew along with M. Pattullo.

Conservative members remained to consider the chairman's draft. When the committee sat, Chairman Twigg announced that he had wired Major Brown to appear, notifying him that the telegram was to be accepted in lieu of a subpoena, and advising that expenses would be paid.

Major Brown had replied agreeing to come, but not at public expense.

When called to the stand, T. D. Pattullo objected to him being sworn as he was not a witness of fact. Major Brown said he was perfectly willing.

"It is not a question of your being willing; you will be sworn, sir," declared the chairman.

On the newspaper reports being produced, Major Brown said they were correct except that he had been misinterpreted as to "having sat in on the committee." He meant he had "listened in" in a colloquial sense. Actually he had read the transcript of evidence and studied it deeply and had received from persons present accurate and reliable reports of the atmosphere of the proceedings.

He said his opinion had been reached before he filed his submission for future handling of the problem and had been strengthened subsequently but he felt it his duty, holding a responsible position, to render such assistance as he could.

### "NO EVIDENCE OF WASTE"

Jack Loutet said there had been no evidence of wasteful expenditure and several allegations investigated had proved to be blind statements.

"There was a startling lack of sincerity in the whole atmosphere," said Major Brown, "which is giving us a great deal of alarm in the commercial community. This is not only my statement, but such statements are being bandied about on the streets."

Asked whose "careful plan" it had been to suppress the truth, Major Brown said he referred to the Government and the committee as a whole.

"Do you think your statement will help the unemployment situation," asked R. W. Rutledge.

"The trouble is that the situation is not being helped," said Major Brown. "That is my anxiety. I have no axe to grind. I have no politics. I am doing my public duty at a great sacrifice but I know public opinion as well as any man here."

J. H. Beatty asked whether it was fair to use the Board of Trade name to assail the committee. Major Brown said he had not used the name of the Board, but had spoken as a citizen. Nevertheless he feared public confidence had been lost in the political atmosphere.

He said he was one of those who favored abolition of party government during the present crisis as he feared there was a tragedy pending. He did not consider the situation was getting on his nerves, he told Mr. Twigg.

"The political atmosphere was such that the points of wasteful expenditure were not cleared up to the satisfaction of the commercial mind," said Major Brown.

He refused to say where he had got the transcript of evidence and refused to give specific instances of wasteful expenditures.

"We are not satisfied that the details have been developed," he said. "We know funds were eaten up wholesale. My knowledge is based on details that have been given to me personally."

"Gossip?" suggested the chairman. "No, I do not gossip," retorted Major Brown. "My information is from responsible business men."

He asked why the witness Bryant was not called.

"He was a timekeeper in one of the camps in North Okanagan," said Major Brown. "He is a good honest fellow. He hung around here for 15 or 20 days offering to give evidence. He told me some of the things he knew about and he could have given good detailed information as to the condition in the camps; how purchases were made, at what prices and so on."

"That is right," said Mr. Manson. "We repeatedly asked to have him called."

"Do you suggest we could have called somebody from every camp?" asked Mr. Twigg.

"No, but you might have called one man from one camp," replied Major Brown.

### NO SEARCH FOR EVIDENCE

"The point is no search was made for the evidence," said Mr. Manson.

Reference was again made to Bryant and Mr. Twigg claimed it had not been convenient to call him while he was in Victoria but efforts had been made to get him after he left.

Gen. J. A. Clark, Government counsel, asked Major Brown to name what witnesses had participated in the plan to distort the truth. But Major Brown refused. He referred to the evidence that had not been adduced, he said.

"This is another attempt deliberately to force the witness into a false position," said Mr. Pattullo. "He was perfectly justified in what he said."

## Report Made to Read That Brown Made an Apology

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, B. C., April 11.—With minor modifications the Conservative members of the Unemployment Relief Committee approved the draft report prepared by Chairman H. D. Twigg.

It was decided to incorporate a reference to Major Harold Brown, President of the Vancouver Board of Trade, saying that he had apologized to the committee for his statement before the Real Estate Exchange.

## Legislature May Prorogue Tuesday

VICTORIA, April 11. — Tuesday night is expected to see the prorogation of the B. C. Legislature at the latest. There are four major issues to come up which are expected to be finished in a hurry. They are redistribution, unemployment, the mortgage moratorium and the fate of the chiropractors' bill.

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# Gov't Exonerated In Draft Report Of Relief Probe

Twigg Findings Include Plea  
for Immediate Start on  
Peace River Rail Outlet

By C. N. SENIOR  
VICTORIA, April 11.—The  
Unemployment Committee of  
the Legislature met this morn-  
ing to consider a report drafted by H.  
D. Twigg, chairman, and placed in the  
members' hands Friday night.

The report in 38 pages finds that:  
All charges or suggestions of extrava-  
gances and irregularities were base-  
less.

Reviews exhaustively the dealings be-  
tween Dominion and Provincial  
governments.

Accepts as true the Provincial Govern-  
ment's statements as to costs of  
relief camps, and concludes with a  
series of recommendations.

Construction of the Peace River  
outlet, land colonization policies, and  
the setting up of a national unemploy-  
ment board with a Provincial Advisory  
Committee consisting of representa-  
tive business men are the outstanding  
recommendations.

## LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Following is a complete list of the  
suggestions for future handling of the  
problem:

1. Direct relief being wasteful and  
demoralizing be discontinued in  
favor of work for remuneration.
2. Investigation whether the magni-  
tude of the problem necessitates  
lessening the burden on munici-  
palities, owing to their limited  
taxable resources.
3. Steps should be taken to restrict  
the flow of men from other prov-  
inces into B. C., or that the  
Dominion and provinces of origin  
of these men be called upon to  
provide for them.
4. Greater attention to unemployed  
women with dependents.
5. Establishment of a permanent na-  
tional board to direct, manage and  
control unemployment relief, with  
full powers to co-ordinate Domi-  
nion, provincial and municipal  
activities.
6. Encouragement of land settlement  
by making acquisition of land  
reasonable.

## TRAIN YOUNG MEN

7. Young men from 18 to 25 to be  
placed in separate camps in agri-  
cultural areas to be taught to  
work, to farm, and "citizenship"  
with the aid of instructors from  
the Department of Agriculture,  
Experimental Farms and the Uni-  
versity, and that those suited to  
farming be provided with tracts of  
suitable land.
8. That negotiations be opened with  
the Dominion Government with a  
view of starting on the Peace River  
outlet and thus give employment to  
many men. That investigation  
should be made to the end that  
suitable men engaged upon such  
work would be assisted to a  
reasonable extent in taking up land  
in the Peace River district.
9. That members of the militia un-  
employed be cared for by their  
respective units.
10. Expenditure on non-revenue pro-  
ducing works is held unsound; men  
should be set to work in their own  
trades by enlisting heads of indus-  
tries and if necessary by advancing  
moneys on loan to basic established  
industries to enable them to reach  
export markets.
11. That arrangements should be made  
for representatives of basic B. C.  
industries to attend the Imperial  
Conference as observers to assist  
the Dominion Government in re-  
capturing Empire markets.
12. That the Government encourage  
and assist trade development and  
extension of markets for B. C.  
products.

13. To increase employment in the  
basic industries that a Provincial  
Advisory Committee be created  
consisting of those versed in fi-  
nance, transportation industry and  
scientific research, who will give  
their services free and collect data  
on utilizing the resources of the  
Province and advise the Govern-  
ment and business community of  
their findings.

Notable in these recommendations is  
the fact that the committee reverts to  
the colonization and industrial loan  
policy used by the former Government  
as an aid to re-absorbing the de-  
mobilized army into civil life.

## Special June Session For P.G.E. Sale?

Basis of Agreement Reach-  
ed; General Election to  
Follow B. C. Ratification

By Sun Staff Correspondent  
VICTORIA, April 11.—The Legis-  
lature is to prorogue Tuesday without  
any P.G.E. bill.

This is being reserved for a special  
session expected to be summoned prob-  
ably about the middle of June. A gen-  
eral election will follow as speedily as  
possible, it is predicted.

As stated in The Vancouver Sun a  
week ago, a P.G.E. sale has been  
practically consummated. Representa-  
tives of the purchasing syndicate  
have been in Victoria for a month  
past negotiating with members of  
the cabinet, and about 10 days ago  
the basis of agreement was reached.

This deal is relied upon by the Tol-  
mie Government to win the general  
election despite the general unpopu-  
larity of the administration.

To make the most of the situation,  
it was felt advisable to spring the  
news of the sale in as dramatic a way  
as possible.

Hence, it has been advised to call a  
special session for the purpose.

Another reason for the special ses-  
sion is that it is considered necessary  
to hold the election immediately after  
the news of the sale is announced.

Owing to the Distribution Bill and  
the changes in the Election Act, it will  
take the party organization a month  
or two to get re-organized on the new  
basis and this will be done between  
now and June.

The sale will not be conditional on  
being ratified by the electors, how-  
ever.

## MORATORIUM TO PROTECT B. C.

'Blanket' Legislation Ex-  
pected

Protection of an indigent mort-  
gagor from necessity to maintain  
interest as well as principal pay-  
ments was favored on a majority  
vote of the City Council today.

Its views were immediately tele-  
graphed to City Solicitor J. B. Wil-  
liams in Victoria so that he might  
be fortified in his fight to have the  
moratorium bill amended in com-  
mittee.

Vancouver mortgagors and mort-  
gagees alike waited with keen inter-  
est today the Legislature's action on  
the moratorium bill.

As the bill stands now it protects  
principal only if interest and taxes are  
paid.

It does not shield the mortgagor  
from court action entirely.  
Strong pressure is being put on the  
government to make it a blanket  
moratorium.

Those who face foreclosure hope  
for the latter. This would be pro-  
tection against eastern financial in-  
terests withdrawing their funds, to  
the cost of B. C. business.

There are also a large number of  
small mortgage holders, representing  
local capital, some of whom have al-  
ready been carrying their mortgag-  
ors' interest and even taxes.

One case was cited by a man who  
had done so on a \$3000 mortgage for  
eight years.

"I hope they won't be too hard on  
us," he said. "That's a case where  
the mortgagee is in danger of being  
sunk as well."

## "Unknown" Commissioner

The Editor: Dear Sir,—It was with feelings of the  
utmost disgust that I read Mr. Howe's attack on our  
two members, Mr. Hanna and Mr. Neill, in connection  
with the fishermen's strike at Port Alberni last fall.

I have looked all through the dictionary, and I  
cannot find any words harsh enough to describe the  
assertions of Mr. Howe, our unknown Commissioner  
of Fisheries. I have discussed this matter with the  
leading fishermen here, and if Mr. Howe ever makes  
another appearance on the west coast he will have  
occasion to remember his unprovoked attack on two of  
the fishermen's staunchest friends.

Mr. Howe claims that Mr. Hanna and Mr. Neill  
fomented the strike.

This is not true.

The fishermen refused to fish dog salmon for 5  
cent apiece for the Japanese monopoly. They came  
to town in a body and held meetings conducted by  
themselves.

They asked Mr. Neill and Mr. Hanna to attend  
their meetings and advise them. Mr. Howe might take  
notice here that the fishermen turned to their friends,  
tested and tried, not to the unknown Commissioner of  
Fisheries.

At no time in the meetings had Mr. Hanna or Mr.  
Neill a vote, and their attitude was one of friendly  
endeavor towards arbitration, which was finally  
adopted.

Mr. Howe claims the responsibility of his govern-  
ment settling the strike. He should be ashamed of  
helping toward such a shameful settlement, himself  
and the Dominion authorities who opened the Alberni  
Canal to seine boats.

If the lowering of the seine boat licenses and the  
opening of the canal are examples of how strikes are  
settled, so that Canadians have to fish for 7 cents a  
fish for a foreign monopoly, it will certainly stand out  
as a great lesson in conservation to fisherman, which  
they will no doubt remember at the next polls.

If Mr. Howe does not believe that the dog salmon  
fishing is in the hands of the Japanese, he is crassly  
ignorant of conditions and has no business posing as  
Commissioner of Fisheries. For his elucidation, every  
dog salmon is put up by Japanese labor entirely.

Sixty per cent of the lumber for the boxes is cut  
by Japanese labor at their own mills. The salt is  
brought from the U. S. A., the nails from Japan and  
the U. S. A. The fish is shipped in Japanese bottoms,  
and outside of the little bit of longshoring to load it,  
and to lousy 7 cents (ganted to the fishermen by  
Mr. Howe's magnanimity), that is the total share that  
Canada and the Province of British Columbia get from  
the bounteous gifts in their waters.

Mr. Howe has been four years in office, and I will  
make him a bet that there is not one fisherman in a  
hundred who knows him personally; in fact, if you  
mention Mr. Howe they want to know who you are  
talking about. Outside of politics, Mr. Hanna and Mr.  
Neill have thousands of personal friends among the  
fishermen, and it little behooves an unknown Com-  
missioner of Fisheries to decry the work of our two  
fine members, when he should have been doing his  
duty by his office and doing the work that they were  
doing.

I would like to sign my name to this letter, but  
as I am a family man and want to work at my busi-  
ness of fishing this year, I will have to be content to  
sign myself.

Port Alberni, B. C.

FISHERMAN.

## GALLERY JOTTINGS

By J. Edward Norcross

VICTORIA, April 12.—Apparently there is nothing in the rumors that have been prevalent for several weeks that the House would prorogue.

The nearer we seem to get to prorogation the farther away it proves to be.

We hoped at one time to get home for Easter.

Then we hoped to get home by the end of Easter week.

Falling that we looked confidently forward to some day about the middle of the week following.

We have now given up hope altogether, for the more bills we pass the more bills our taskmasters push in front of us.

Several came in Monday and these, it is reported, are not the last of them.

### Page Kipling

When we got down to business, ultimately reaching the Redistribution bill, the debate on second reading of which brought to mind some lines of Rudyard Kipling's: "We ain't no thin red 'eroes, and we ain't no blackguards, too; But single men in barracks most remarkable like you. And if sometimes our conduct isn't all your fancy paints, Why single men in barracks don't grow into plaster saints."

Certain newspapers have been pouring contempt and scorn on this Legislature as a body of political hacks born of the party lines system and incapable of giving the province decent government.

The Legislature does not like it and, through the mouths of several members, it said so in very plain terms.

It was made clear that, no matter what the opposition might say about the government and what the government might say about the opposition, they had, at bottom, a very high opinion of each other and that, taken together, they were at least as good a government and opposition as those with which any other part of Canada was favored.

### Business Men Out

At all events, each side was prepared to admit that the other side would run the country better than any aggregation of business men who knew nothing about parliamentary institutions.

Each was willing to acknowledge on behalf of the other that the other was not quite perfect, but they were quite sure that, operating on the party lines system, they could produce between them a more high-class brand of administration than if party responsibility were abolished.

Mr. Maitland told the House that British Columbia was more free from graft and corruption than any other province.

"Call the roll," he cried. "Take the men on both sides of the House who in years gone by have been the victims of mud-slinging when in office—has it not been found when they retired that they had sacrificed everything?"

### Criticism of the Press

"It is not the opposition criticism," he continued, "but the unfair criticism of the press that is disheartening, most disheartening. There is no word of encouragement, not a single word for a single measure."



J. Edward Norcross

As to what business men could do, Mr. Maitland declined to see in certain expenditures of big business concerns during the last few years, resulting in the breeding of white elephants, any indication that the "big brains" behind them would manage the affairs of the province any better.

Mr. Manson found himself largely in agreement with Mr. Maitland, pointing out that the absence of party lines had not made civic and municipal administration conspicuously successful.

Anyway, the same condemnation was meted out to them.

### Party Line Divisions

For the most part the debate dealt with the bill in hand.

Mr. Pattullo, who had reminded the House of the constant turmoil that obtained in the days before party lines were introduced, said the bill was a species of gerrymander.

He, and several members who followed, took the position that it was hardly worth while merging constituencies to effect a reduction of the membership by merely one.

Mr. Manson boldly suggested that two more members be added leaving the merged constituencies as they were. The suggestion that Vancouver be shorn a little evoked a strong protest from Mr. Maitland and Mr. Loutet.

Mr. Hayward, who had admitted that Victoria might be cut down to two members but would countenance it only on condition that Vancouver suffered a similar fifty-fifty reduction.

### Calls It Outrage

The members whose ridings were injuriously affected were unanimously of the opinion that the bill was an outrage in certain respects, but the unanimity ceased when it came to particulars.

Poor Mr. Hanna, whose Alberni disappears, pathetically confessed that his political life never looked rosier to him than now when, it seemed, he was asked to give it up.

Dr. Borden, Nelson, and Mr. Hayward, Victoria, stood up with the opposition against the bill. Col. Lister, Creston, torn between conflicting emotions, took refuge in the lobby.

These were not the only defections during the afternoon, Mr. Loutet voting against the Mothers' Pensions bill.

### Business Done

First reading: Bills amending the Radium Act and the Revenue Act.

Second reading: Bill respecting the Liability of Municipalities; bills to amend the Mothers' Pensions Act, the Special Revenue Tax Act, the Constitution Act, the Radium Act, and the Revenue Act.

Reported: Bills amending the Constitution Act, the Provincial Elections Act, and the Game Act.

Third reading: Bills amending the Medical Act, the Special Revenue Tax Act, the Mothers' Pensions Act, the Village Municipalities Act, and the Taxation Act.

VICTORIA, April 12.—On the plea of Thomas Uphill, Labor member for Fernie, the new Game Act provision requiring every male angler over 18 to take out a \$1 license was modified in the Legislature Monday night to allow the game commissioner or his wardens to issue permits to needy persons who are deemed to require fish for food.

## Brown Urges Fusion of Best Victoria Brains

Back from Victoria after his notable colloquy with the legislative select committee on unemployment Monday morning, Harold Brown, President of Vancouver Board of Trade, issued the following personal statement:

"In the light of recent events I wish publicly to pay my respects to the members of the select committee on unemployment and to its able chairman."

"My bitterness was alone directed to the political barrier which prevents the revelation of the true soul and spirit of the country in the terrible crisis which is rapidly intensifying."

"I counsel the Government to suspend every vestige of party expediency and take to itself a fusion of able and willing men to consider both the financial position of the province, and a general scheme of sustentation which will save us from the worst consequences of the present stress amongst a large body of worthy and silently suffering citizens."

"Although it may sound almost like a fairy tale, I should like to say that I have not even half an eye on any possible office, nor have I any self-interest whatever to serve."

"I am animated, solely as a gravely concerned citizen of the province which I love greatly, to help in any way I can as far as my limited capacity will allow in attempting a whole-hearted handling of the situation in true communion of spirit and good fellowship."

(Signed)

Harold Brown.



Harold Brown

## Radium Deposit Sought On Vancouver Island

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 12.—Imminent possibility of radium in commercial quantities being discovered on Vancouver Island was suggested to the Legislature, Monday, by Hon. W. A. McKenzie, Minister of Mines, in introducing a new Bill amending the Radium Act.

The original Bill authorizes the Government to pay \$5000 to anybody discovering radium in commercial quantities and permits the Government to take 50 per cent of the radium produced.

The new Bill leaves the \$5000 but reduces the amount the Government may take to 10 per cent.

"The Department is informed that some good ground has been located on Vancouver Island, that looks very favorable," said the Minister. "It is suggested that if the Government is to take 50 per cent, it will be difficult to get capital for development."

Mr. Pattullo said radium was very valuable and he had known agreements in the Yukon affecting gold where the owner and the layman had split 60-40. He thought the reduction to 10 per cent was extreme.

The Bill was given second reading at the night sitting of the House.

## TREASURY CONTROL BILL IRKS PATTULLO

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 12.—Treasury control, the device promised in the budget speech for regulating government expenditures, was introduced to the Legislature in a bill presented by Hon. J. W. Jones, finance minister, late Monday afternoon. The bill was given second reading at the evening session in face of a double-barrelled protest by T. D. Pattullo, Opposition leader.

He objected to a bill announced weeks ago being withheld until the last minute, giving members no time to consider it.

## TOLMIE TURNS DOWN FORENOON SESSION

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 12.—Despite the desire of up-country members to adjourn the Legislature by tonight, Premier Tolmie refused at Monday's adjournment to consider a forenoon session today. The House will not sit until 2:30 p.m. The reason, it was learned, is another Conservative caucus.

A. M. Manson, K.C., pleaded in behalf of the interior members to hold a morning sitting in order to insure completion of business by mid-night, but the Premier stuck to his guns.

The unemployment report, the Chiropractor bill and the Moratorium bill are still to be discussed, as well as the tag-ends of a large number of other bills.

## 'Newsboys Taxed But Not Banks'

Tolmie Gov't Levies Declared Gross Form of Imposition Without Representation

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 12.—The amount of \$300,000 is anticipated from the new tax of five mills for educational purposes on land outside school areas, the Legislature was informed yesterday as final reading was given to the Taxation Bill.

The information regarding the new tax introduced on the suggestion of Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe was given to T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, by Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance, at the evening session.

Mr. Pattullo was also informed that there had been no increase in the tax on banks, express and telegraph companies or railways.

"They were paying higher taxes in B. C.," Mr. Jones said, than in any other Province, and the tax on them was raised last year.

"But you are increasing the tax on all the young people of the Province from five years up," said Mr. Pattullo. "Young people under 21 are being taxed. Even newsboys are being taxed. Here we have 'taxation without representation' in its grossest form. What will they think when they learn banks, who are charging more than at any other time, are not being taxed yet these young people are paying more."



Tuesday, April 12, 1932

## Party System Held Best Type of Gov't

### Bill Called Political Gerrymander

Three Conservatives Join  
in Liberal Protest of  
Redistribution Plans

By Sun Staff Correspondent  
VICTORIA, April 12.—With three Conservative members protesting vigorously, the Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe's Redistribution Bill passed second reading in the Legislature Monday afternoon following a three-hour debate. With minor amendments the Bill was advanced another stage in the evening.

Dr. L. E. Borden, Nelson, and Reginald Hayward, Victoria, voted with the Liberal members and Tom Uphill, Labor, against the Bill. Col. Fred Lister, Creston, associated himself fully with Dr. Borden in attacking the unfairness of reducing the Kootenay representation by two members while reducing the whole province by only one.

He then withdrew before the division and did not vote. Mr. Hayward described the Bill as unfortunate; said it would have been better if it had never been born. He criticized the failure to reduce the size of the House, saying Victoria was willing to take two members if Vancouver would take a similar cut.

The Opposition criticism was summed up by T. D. Pattullo, Liberal leader, when he said the Bill was a political gerrymander conceived for the benefit of the Conservative party.

**BOTH LIBERAL SEATS**  
Alberni and Nanaimo were combined, he said, because they were both Liberal seats. Columbia was abolished because the Government had lost the by-election.

Nelson and Creston were amalgamated because everybody knew Nelson was a lost seat for the Government and Creston was doubtful. This made only one seat instead of two to be lost to the Liberals. Thomas King, Columbia, and L. A. Hanna, Alberni, spoke bitterly of the injustice done to their constituencies in combining them with others with which they had no community of interest.

### PRESENCE OF POLICE AT PROBE PROTESTED

VICTORIA, B.C., April 12.—Final reading was given at the evening session of the Legislature to the bill amending the Mothers' Pension Act.

A protest was registered by Tom Uphill, Labor, Fernie, at the presence of police officers when investigations were being made. T. D. Pattullo, Opposition leader, formally registered a protest, stating he had already voiced his party's views.

An amendment was brought in by Hon. S. L. Howe to the bill making municipalities liable for a portion of the costs of patients in institutions. It covered the case of veterans in hospital for whom the Dominion Government paid the full charge.

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 12.—Debate on the Redistribution Bill in the Legislature, Monday, led into a general defence of the party system as the best system of government that the British people had yet devised.

Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., made a scathing attack on business men and newspapers who advocated non-party government.

A. M. Manson, K.C., agreeing with him in general said that what was needed at the moment was a government with a specific mandate from the people to face the present crisis.

"Redistribution bills usually precede elections," he said. "Let the Government bring on the election speedily. Everybody knows the present cabinet must be re-organized. It has lost public confidence."

"If the present government can win the election well and good, but whoever wins it will win it in the face of a very real crisis and will have a mandate to tackle the problem drastically. The present financial situation cannot continue."

#### AN ACUTE CRISIS

"I regard this crisis as so acute that I think the best possible ministry should be formed. Personally I do not want any consideration at the hands of my leader if he is called on to form a government. I want him to feel he has his hands free to bring in the best men he can possibly secure. Whether they are elected at the general election or not I hope he will pick the finest men he can find and give them seats in the cabinet."

Mr. Maitland said that newspaper editors who attacked the party system could not give the import of a single bill that had gone through the Legislature, nor tell what was in the Conservative platform drawn up at Winnipeg.

#### SCORES BUSINESS MEN

As for business-man government, he said the cream of the country's business talent was to be found in the C.P.R., the C.N.R., directors appointed to take that railway out of politics, the Canada Pulp & Paper Co. and the banks.

The orgy of extravagance in the C. N. R. under business men had been unparalleled, he said.

The very leaders of finance and industry in the Canada Power & Paper Co. were accused of inflicting one of the worst swindles ever put over on investors.

T. D. Pattullo, Opposition leader, made passing reference to the subject during discussion of the bill. He recalled that non-party government had been tried before the McBride administration. It had resulted in a meeting of the banks being held to save the threatened credit of the Province and to advance money so that the obligation of the Government could be met.

### GOV'T MAY EXTEND MORATORIUM SCOPE

VICTORIA, April 12.—Possibility of Attorney-General Pooley's Limited Moratorium Bill being amended at the last minute to include interest as well as principal was indicated shortly before the Legislature sat this afternoon.

J. B. Williams, Vancouver City Solicitor, met Premier Tolmie and stated afterward that he had been assured that the Government would give serious consideration to Vancouver City Council's request for enactment of the 1916 War Time Moratorium.

The Bill will be dealt with in the House today, and amendments are considered possible. The Conservative caucus discussed the question this morning.

Wednesday, April 13, 1932

## Merit System In Compensation Act

Firms to Be Assessed on  
Basis of Responsibility  
for Workers' Accidents

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 13.—Amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act, arising out of the recent dispute between the board and the logging industry, were laid before the Legislature late Tuesday afternoon and advanced two stages by consent so that Attorney General Pooley could explain their import. Second reading was given without opposition, but a discussion in committee stage was fore-shadowed.

The chief amendments provide:

1. For establishment of the merit rating system among individual firms, whereunder assessments will be based on the degree of responsibility for accidents.
2. For examination of the reserve fund by a qualified actuary to see if the fund is in proper proportions.
3. For charging interest on deficiencies in assessments arising from a firm under-estimating its payroll.
4. For charging a careless firm with the cost of inspection of his plant from a safety standpoint.

Other amendments permit the board to invest its funds in securities of the Greater Vancouver Water Board, to pay medical aid in the case of an accident where the workman is absent less than three days and hence not compensable, and to charge interest where money is borrowed from one fund to support another fund.

#### POOLEY EXPLAINS

The merit rating system, Attorney General Pooley stated, arose from the difficulties experienced in the logging industry.

The actuarial inspection, he said, was deemed advisable owing to the fact that the fund was considered to be on a very conservative basis and might contain more than was necessary to fulfill the obligations against it. If there should prove to be a surplus, he said, it was only right that this should be divided among the industries in these stressful times as an abatement of assessments.

Mr. Pooley stated that the board had asked for and approved all the amendments, and denied that there was anything in the bill tending towards alteration of the personnel.

#### LABOR PROPOSALS

Tom Uphill urged the need for amendments to take care of two classes. People working for mere subsistence on relief were the same as other workers entitled to compensation only up to 62½ per cent of their average wages. This was less than a livable income, and he suggested there should be a minimum of \$25 a week.

He also stated that where a pensioned widow died the allowance for the children ceased when they became 16, whereas if the widow lived the pension continued to her death or remarriage. This interfered with the education of the children, and he suggested the allowance should be continued to a higher age when both parents were dead.

### POOLEY SMOTHERS SWEEPSTAKE MOVE

VICTORIA, April 13.—An effort by Thomas Uphill, Labor member for Fernie, to bring before the Legislature Tuesday evening a resolution for the legalization of government sweepstakes to raise funds for unemployment relief work was nipped in the bud.

Attorney General Pooley took the point of order that a resolution could not instruct the government to break the criminal code and Mr. Speaker Davie ruled the motion out.

### Closing Of House Like Mardi Gras

Dignity Thrown Overboard  
at Victoria as Greatest  
Tax Levy Session Ends

VICTORIA, April 13.—After eight weeks in session, broken by a short recess for Easter the British Columbia Legislature, after passing several pieces of legislation and placing taxes on the statute books which will reach out to every citizen of the province, prorogued this morning.

The extra tax of 2 cents a gallon on gasoline and the changed income tax which will be deducted from every wage cheque issued in the Province are left as proof of the striking reminders of the fourth session of the Legislature. Prorogation was marked with the usual celebrations.

As soon as the Lieutenant Governor had left the Legislative Chamber about noon, dignity was cast aside.

Desks were emptied. Notes of speeches, order papers, bills and wastepaper baskets were hurled around.

Paper fluttered from galleries. Quartettes were organized in which opposition and Conservative members strove vainly for harmony and H. F. Kergin, Liberal whip, as usual rose to the occasion with a variety of parodies inspired by business during the session.

Forecasts were made before the Legislature met that this would be the last session of the Tolmie Government, and before time arrived for another session of Parliament the Conservative party would have appealed to the country under a new leader.

#### TOLMIE STICKS TO JOB

Nothing has transpired to strengthen the prediction.

Premier Tolmie shattered one prediction as far as he is personally concerned.

Frankly he told the Legislature that he considered the call he had to lead the party at Kamloops when it was in turmoil over the leadership and the subsequent endorsement of his leadership was sufficient justification for him to remain at the head.

He announced in very plain terms that he intended to stay there until the people of the country indicated to him they did not want him.

#### ELECTION AVOIDED

Challenges have been flung across the floor for the Government to go to the country at an early date.

Opposition members have declared there is a crisis in public affairs and dissatisfaction which calls for a new mandate from the people for some government.

Government members have not replied to the challenge beyond to intimate by interruptions they believe the dissatisfaction exists in the minds of the Opposition only. References to an early election have been met with remarks that it will not be held and to hold one soon would mean the expenditure of thousands of dollars for the satisfaction of the Liberal Party.



Premier Tolmie

# B. C. Chiropractor Bill, Twice Given Approval, Killed

## Moratorium Bill Action Is Endorsed

Council Backs Solicitor's Plan Supporting Move Similar to Ontario Act.

A majority of the City Council yesterday formally endorsed City Solicitor J. B. Williams' Victoria activities in favor of an amendment to the moratorium bill to exempt mortgagors from payment of interest as well as principal.

The hour of a special meeting at 10 a.m. Monday was advanced half an hour so that council could formally rescind two if its former resolutions dealing with moratoria in time to legalize Mr. Williams case before the legislature gives first reading to the bill.

Aldermen formerly asked for a bill similar to the Ontario Act, and this has been complied with in the government measure now before the House. It would give the mortgagor relief from principal payments only if interest and taxes were maintained. The city solicitor contended today that only about 10 per cent. of those in need would be benefitted by such legislation. He favored and seven aldermen approved, the rival of the B. C. Moratorium Act of 1916. Under it no foreclosure proceedings could be instituted against a householder except by permission of the courts, he declared. The judge would have discretion to exempt a mortgagor from both interest and principal if he felt circumstances warranted it.

If the present bill passes, a man who is one day behind in his interest can obtain no protection.

"The man who is right up against it so that he can not scrape up enough money to pay interest is discriminated against in favor of the man who is only half up against it," Mr. Williams summarized.

Aldermen agreed that they should not ask for extension of the bill to taxes, fearing a general decline in civic revenues and perhaps bankruptcy for a number of municipalities. Council can make arrangements to carry a delinquent taxpayer if it so desires, it was stated.

## Columbia 'Punished' For Rebuking Gov't

VICTORIA, April 13.—Before the redistribution bill passed final reading T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, registered a final protest in the Legislature Tuesday. The change for the reduction of one member was not justified, he said.

Alberni and Nanaimo with no community of interest, had been joined. The same applied to Revelstoke and Columbia.

Columbia, he thought, had been wiped out as a measure of punishment for electing a Liberal at the by-election.

## Measure Fails by Two Votes After Its Adoption Had Seemed to Be Assured

VICTORIA, April 13.—The Chiropractor Bill is dead.

Its fate was sealed in committee of the whole Tuesday afternoon, when the members of the Legislature voted by 20 to 18 "that the chairman do now leave the chair."

A similar motion half an hour earlier had been defeated, and it seemed that the bill's successful passage was assured, when the axe suddenly fell. An effort to revive it in the evening failed by one vote.

The measure passed second reading some days ago by 22 to 21, with half a dozen members absent. Since then, George S. Pearson, Nanaimo, a supporter of the bill, was called home by the death of his father.

When the Bill went into committee, Thomas King, Columbia, who had voted for the Bill on second reading, was appointed to the chair. That was two votes gone.

### "TO JOCKEY THE BILL"

As soon as the committee was called to order, William Dick, Vancouver, whose Drugless Physicians' Bill had been defeated by the same Government majority as carried the Chiropractor Bill through second reading, moved that the "chairman do now leave the chair."

Although the motion is not debatable, H. D. Twigg, Victoria, managed to shout that the member was "trying to jockey the bill out of the House, by a bit of chicanery unworthy of a member of this House."

He warned the members against being tricked.

### DEFEATED 21 TO 16.

The Dick motion was defeated by 21 to 16 on the following vote:

**FOR THE MOTION**—Dick, Kingston, Berry, Borden, Kirk, Wrinch, Sutherland, Pattullo, A. M. Manson, MacPherson, Alward, Spencer, Walkem, MacNaughton, Schofield, Beatty.

**AGAINST THE MOTION**—Tolmie, Pooley, Jones, Howe, Maitland, Twigg, Hayward, Mitchell, M. Manson, Cornett, Shelly, Atkinson, Lougheed, W. A. McKenzie, Loutel, Carson, R. McKenzie, Rutledge, Fitzsimmons, Uphill, Gray.

**ABSENT**—Hanna, Pearson, Lister, Kergin, Heggie, Hinchliffe, MacIntosh.

**PAIRED**—Bruhn, Gillis.

The next move was an amendment by Tom Uphill to permit the practice under the bill of "other natural methods of healing" as well as chiropractic.

### PROBE WAS RESTRICTED

Twigg pointed out that this would simply admit the drugless physicians, against whom Mr. Justice Murphy

had reported, and against whose right to practise the House had already decided.

A. M. Manson stated that Mr. Justice Murphy had been expressly forbidden by the terms of his commission to enquire into the merits of chiropractic as method of healing, and said if one cult was to be licensed the House might as well go the whole way.

This was described as illogical by Hon. R. L. Maitland.

On a show of hands, the amendment was lost, receiving the support of only Manson, Gray, MacPherson, Pattullo, Uphill, Kirk, Berry, Dick and Beatty.

There was a vote on the section which sets up the chiropractic board, but it also passed by 17 to 14. An amendment by J. H. Beatty to admit all chiropractors who had practised for 15 years gained only 10 votes and was lost.

The other sections had all been approved and the final motion to report the bill to the House was just about to be put when Mr. Manson interposed with another motion that the chairman do now leave the chair, the same motion as that put earlier by William Dick.

On this vote, Hon. J. W. Jones was absent. Messrs. Kergin and Hanna had returned to the House, and Messrs. Fitzsimmons and Mitchell voted "yes" instead of "no" as on the Dick motion.

The fatal division was, therefore, as follows:

**FOR THE MOTION**—Dick, Kingston, Berry, Borden, Kirk, Wrinch, Kergin, Sutherland, Pattullo, A. M. Manson, Fitzsimmons, Hanna, MacPherson, Alward, Spencer, Walkem, Mitchell, MacNaughton, Schofield, Berry.

**AGAINST THE MOTION**—Tolmie, Pooley, Howe, Maitland, Twigg, Hayward, M. Manson, Cornett, Shelly, Atkinson, Lougheed, W. A. McKenzie, Loutel, Carson, R. McKenzie, Rutledge, Uphill, Gray.

**ABSENT**—Pearson, Lister, Reggie, MacIntosh, Jones, Hinchliffe.

**PAIRED**—Bruhn and Gillis.

The change in the situation since second reading was mainly due to the defeat of the Drugless Physicians' Bill.

Supporters of that Bill resented the attitude of the cabinet in giving support to one branch of healing and voting against the other.

They determined that if the drugless physicians should not be recognized, neither should the chiropractors.

Mr. Twigg's effort at the evening sitting to restore the Bill to the order paper was defeated on formally recorded division on the floor of the House by 20 to 19.

On this last division, Thomas King, chairman in committee during the afternoon, voted for the Bill as he had done on second reading.

Hon. J. W. Jones, who was absent in the afternoon was present at night to vote for the Bill, but his vote was offset by the absence of Hon. W. A. McKenzie.

William Dick, who had voted against the Bill in the afternoon, was away at night, and George Reggie, who was absent in the afternoon, voted against the Bill at the evening sitting.

The actual division on the evening vote was:

**TO RESTORE THE BILL**—Loutel, Carson, R. McKenzie, Rutledge, Uphill, King, Gray, Hayward, Twigg, Maitland, Howe, Jones, Tolmie, Pooley, M. Manson, Cornett, Shelly, Atkinson, Lougheed.

**AGAINST THE BILL**—Fitzsimmons, MacPherson, Kingston, Berry, Borden, Kirk, Wrinch, Kergin, Sutherland, Pattullo, A. M. Manson, Alward, Reggie, Spencer, Walkem, Mitchell, MacNaughton, Schofield, Beatty.

**ABSENT**—Pearson, Gillis, Dick, Lister, Hinchliffe, MacIntosh, Bruhn, W. A. McKenzie.

In view of the peculiar fluctuations of the voting in Tuesday's several divisions, it is interesting to compare the way the members voted on second reading last Thursday, when the Bill carried by 22 to 21.

### ON SECOND READING THE VOTE WAS:

**FOR THE BILL**—Loutel, Carson, Rutledge, Uphill, King, Pearson, Dick, Lister, Gray, Jones, Tolmie, Pooley, M. Manson, Cornett, Shelly, Atkinson, Lougheed, W. A. McKenzie.

**AGAINST THE BILL**—Fitzsimmons, Hanna, MacPherson, Gillis, Kingston, Berry, Borden, Kirk, Wrinch, Kergin, Sutherland, Pattullo, A. M. Manson, Alward, Spencer, Walkem, MacIntosh, Mitchell, MacNaughton, Schofield, Beatty.

**ABSENT**—R. McKenzie, Heggie, Hinchliffe, Bruhn.

## Pattullo Honored By Liberal M.L.A.'s

VICTORIA, April 13.—Liberal members of the Legislature concluded their activities Tuesday night, with a presentation to their leader, T. D. Pattullo.

## Capone Rule By Doctors, Says Sturdy

All Well-Known Tactics of Gangsters Used to Kill 'Chiro' Bill, He States

"Capone methods," said Dr. Walter Sturdy, president of the B. C. Chiropractors' Association, today in speaking of the killing of the Chiropractic bill in committee in the house at Victoria yesterday.

"True, they did not use guns, but the medical doctors resorted to all the well-known tactics of the gangsters and instead of guns, by threats and brow-beating intimidated unwilling members to sacrifice their personal beliefs in a mad onslaught to defeat the measure and as they think further entrench themselves in an unassailable position in the public mind.

"It was not the will of the house that the bill was defeated," continued Dr. Sturdy. "It was the machinations, however, of a group of medical men and a few others whose sympathies were entirely with them who employed all the arts of Chicago thugdom to defeat the legalization of chiropractic in B. C.

### A MEDICAL THREAT

"A year or so ago the Medical Association threatened that it would put a doctor and nurse in every constituency to ensure the political downfall of any candidate who might speak favorably of chiropractic or chiropractors.

"They have accomplished what they set out to do, only they concentrated their racket at Victoria. And these are the same men to whom the people are asked to entrust health insurance, another thumb-screw to be twisted at their behest, while the pawns and puppets at Victoria dance as they pull the strings."

According to Dr. Sturdy any further demand for legalization of chiropractic in B. C. will have to emanate from the public. During the past 10

or 12 years the chiropractors have expended something like \$25,000 in a campaign to put themselves legally before the public.

### "UP TO THE PUBLIC"

"We, as an organization, cannot continue to stand this drain," stated Dr. Sturdy. There is a disinclination to beggar and impoverish ourselves by spending further money for lawyers and royal commissions when the cards are definitely stacked against us.

"It will be up to Labor organizations and others and a general uprising of public opinion to ensure the public that their rights will not be fully taken away and that chiropractic may take its place as a recognized agency to help in human ailments.

"We have no desire to remain in the position of bootlegging health when the Murphy Commission indicated that chiropractic as a profession should be legalized, but apparently the public will have to tell a small clique at Victoria that they cannot continue to run the government, a little clique that is fearful of losing a meal ticket on the Workmen's Compensation Board, if chiropractors are given a license.

### TRADE ON DRUGLESS HEALERS

"Medical men went even so far as to trade on the intelligence of the drugless healers. The chiropractors have no battle with the drugless healers but chiropractic has a distinct place in the social health structure and regardless of medical men or drugless healers the commission ruled for its conduct under a properly constituted board.

"The medical clique may have assassinated a few chiropractors at Victoria," he said, "but it will be the public's own funeral."

Dr. H. C. Wrinch, chairman of caucus, tendered him with the appreciation of the whole Liberal membership for the loyal and able way he had conducted his duties, a handsome leather club bag.

Along with it was an attractive silver desk service for Mrs. Pattullo.

B. C. AFT

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# B. C. RELIEF REPORT ADOPTED AFTER AN ALL-NIGHT DEBATE

Straight Party Division Gives Approval; Conservative Members Take Stand That Government Had Been Given a Clean Sheet; Liberals Uphold Brown Charges

By Sun Staff Correspondent  
VICTORIA, April 13.—After ragged all-night debate ending at 2:15 o'clock this morning, the Legislature on a straight party division adopted the report of the committee on unemployment. Conservative members took the stand that the Government had been given a clean sheet, but opposition members upheld Major Harold Brown's statement that no real investigation had been held.

Almost every member of the House, including the two party leaders, participated. The report was adopted, but as T. D. Pattullo pointed out, not a member had had a chance to read its 14 pages of closely printed matter, which was not placed in their hands until an hour after the House assembled.

**ALLUSIONS TO BROWN**  
The document was little changed from the draft placed in the hands of members of the committee Friday night by H. D. Twigg, chairman, except for a page of allusions to the statements made by Major Brown, president of the Vancouver Board of Trade.

After quoting at length those parts of Major Brown's evidence wherein he apologized for any reflection upon the personal honor of members of the committee, but omitting his insistence upon the statement that the committee had been a shameful distortion of the truth the report went on to say:

"Your committee has come to the conclusion that Major Brown's evidence was quite unwarranted by the facts or any explanation by him and was scandalous and untrue."

**HEGGIE MAKES ATTACK**

Government supporters made many similar references to Major Brown, outstanding among which was George Heggie's statement that he was greatly puzzled by "this man Brown" and his suggestion that the Board of Trade should "muzzle its president."

He expressed astonishment that a man of Mr. Brown's position should lower himself by conversing with a "man from the jungles of Vernon," alluding to the former timekeeper Bryant whom Major Brown suggested should have been called as a witness.

Opposition members stated that the committee instead of being an investigation had been an effort by a self accused government to exculpate itself and to place the blame for delays on the Dominion.

The trial had been conducted entirely on the evidence of the accused and only one witness, an official of the Dominion government, asked for by the opposition had been called.

**A ONE-MAN'S REPORT**

They also charged that the report had been prepared without asking opposition members for their views and that no opportunity for Liberal members to contribute constructive suggestions for the future had been offered until after the report had been written by the chairman without instructions from the committee.

"The Premier only the other night stated this question had been with us for four years," said Mr. Pattullo in opening his remarks. "Yet his government proceeded as if there were no unemployment, although warned by members on this side, especially this member for Nanaimo, who two years ago suggested a method of handling this problem which is only now embodied in the report before us tonight."

"The government took no steps but drifted with its extravagant expenditures until it was overwhelmed," he declared.

He had himself refused to participate in drafting the report, he said, because the evidence had not been adduced on which the committee could form conclusions.

The primary aim of the committee from the government's standpoint had been to exculpate the province from blame for the delays that had occurred and to lay the blame on the Dominion. There were more important features than that, however.

**EVIDENCE REHEARSED**

Counsel had not been appointed to assist the committee but to defend the government and his procedure had been to rehearse the evidence with government officials, state the evidence he wished them to give and ask them to corroborate it. Instead of letting the committee judge what documents were required, counsel for the self-accused government had made the selection.

The chairman had suavely stated that all witnesses and documents required would be produced but when specific requests were made had arrogantly declared the committee could have only such witnesses and documents as he decided.

**BULDOZING TACTICS**

He accused Mr. Twigg of adopting "bulldozing tactics." He predicted that when Major Brown read the extracts from his evidence quoted in the report he would regret his tribute to the chairman's courtesy, for if ever a man had been misrepresented by isolated statements taken from their context that treatment had been accorded to the president of the board of trade. And the chairman, who had this, he added caustically, was the man who urged that no discordant note be sounded in the debate.

The treatment of McGeough in having witnesses who heard his evidence called to damn his character and then refusing McGeough any reply was described as a travesty of justice.

**TOLMIE DEFENCE**

Premier Tolmie claimed no province or state had handled the problem better than B.C. It was true the action was largely of an emergency character, but it had been necessary to get the men out of the cities and in the hurry there had naturally been some haste.

The investigation had been made necessary by spreading of propaganda to injure the government. He described as disgraceful the statements made by two B.C. Liberal members of the House of Commons which he claimed had been proven false. The propaganda had been spread to injure the government.

The committee had been told to throw everything wide open so that nothing be hidden and the best possible chairman, a man who could not be ridden by the opposition, had been selected. Similarly he paid tribute to the counsel, Gen. J. A. Clark.

He deplored suggestions that civil servants would pussyfoot or give untrue evidence.

**TWIGG MOVES ADOPTION**

Mr. Twigg, in moving adoption of the report, said the investigation had been exhaustive, covering 1100 pages of evidence.

He charged that the opposition members of the committee had not made a single suggestion of any kind to help the relief of unemployment, and when the time came to settle on the recommendations only the member for Omineca had remained in the room. He had made no suggestions.

"I ask members to forget party politics," he said. "These recommendations are on a high plane and represent an earnest effort to help the Government alleviate distress."

"It is impossible for the province to deal with the problem on a grand scale, but the province could assist by schemes that might take the younger men off the streets."

## CALLS IT TRAVESTY

A. M. Manson said he agreed with business men who said the committee had been a travesty.

If it was true that the Government had completed arrangements for the P. G. E. Railway to be completed by private capital that was the best solution, but if not, then he said it was incumbent upon the administration to make a determined effort to have the construction carried out in conjunction with the Dominion Government.

## MONEY PAID TIMEKEEPER

George Heggie, North Okanagan, said he had been informed Bryant, the North Okanagan timekeeper, had been paid money to come here to give evidence and that Mr. Pattullo had paid him \$24 to clear out of town.

Mr. Pattullo explained that the man came of his own accord, stayed around two or three weeks and having no money to pay his expenses had

been given the \$24 to pay his hotel bill.

## FOOLEY ANSWERS MANSON

Answering the charge of Mr. Manson that politics had been rampant in unemployment relief, Attorney General Fooley said it was a charge easy to make but hard to prove. He said that a present Liberal member of the House had received orders for thousands of dollars worth of goods before he had been elected to the Legislature.

Thomas King, Liberal, Columbia, as the merchant referred to by Mr. Fooley claimed the \$1600 order which had been mentioned was for goods supplied to workmen who made their purchases where they pleased. The Government had not placed one dollar of its own business with him, he declared.

J. Loutet, Conservative, North Vancouver, said Mr. McGeough, Federal director of relief, was very anxious to give evidence damning the Provincial Government.

Colonel Fred Lister, Conservative, Creston, asked attention be paid to the recommendation that men of the militia be taken care of through their units while they were unemployed.

## RUTLEDGE BACKS REPORT

W. R. Rutledge, Conservative, Burnaby, claimed Liberals entered upon the investigation with the object of making political capital. None of the charges they made had been proved, he claimed. Hon. W. A. McKenzie charged no constructive suggestions had been offered by opposition members. If a 1 per cent tax was levied on the wage bill of Canada it would provide \$25,000,000 a year for unemployment relief.

J. W. Berry regretted the remarks of the president of the Vancouver Board of Trade which, he said, would create a bad impression of a business man's possible worth in public life at a time when consideration was being given to the matter.

Mr. Uphill said it was amazing to hear members admit helplessness. The way to solve the problem was to take over the means of production and use them for the common good, he said.

T. H. Kirk said he considered the camps had been built and conducted in a business-like manner and that costs were not excessive.

L. A. Hanna said that the unemployment condition had prevailed for several years and was getting worse, and he did not believe more conferences would cure it.

Dr. W. H. Sutherland contended the public, who knew the conditions in their own districts, would be the judges, whether the enquiry had been wide open.

Col. Nelson Spencer, Conservative, Vancouver, thought the report proved the Government had a clean sheet. Money that had been expended had been expended well, but there was still a problem to face.

He thought the Government would be well advised to call in any experts it could find to help it shape its future policy on unemployment. Men from every branch of industry should be asked to help. He was in favor of getting rid of the dole as represented by direct relief and getting people at work on productive employment as soon as possible.

## Board of Trade Not Committed, Says Brown

Criticisms of Relief Probe at Victoria Were Purely Personal

To make clear that his recent criticisms regarding the handling of the unemployment situation were of his own personal volition and not as president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, Harold Brown on Tuesday addressed the following letter to Premier S. F. Tolmie, also to T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Liberal Opposition:

"In connection with certain statements which I have made quite conclusively and in connection with which I interviewed the Select Committee on Unemployment in Victoria, I endeavored to point out while there, the occasion upon which the statement was made was quite apart from the Board of Trade and represented my personal opinions as a citizen in regard to the serious situation in which a great mass of the people are now involved."

"It is in no way committed the Board of Trade of which I happen to have the honor of being president, and I am particularly anxious to assure you and the members of your Cabinet that I was solely influenced by my own intense feeling of the situation and a desire to quicken public opinion to a realization of the absolute need to lay aside political feeling until the crisis had passed, at least."

"The Board of Trade is naturally concerned in the general welfare of the country and realizes very deeply that constitutional governments must be left to use their own judgment with regard to the best possible administration of the country. To this extent, therefore, I wish to make it perfectly clear that the statements made were the expression of personal opinion and that the fact of my being at the head of the Board of Trade in no way involves that body in a general acceptance of my views."

"The Board of Trade with other organizations of the city, is most anxiously concerned in a consideration of the vital subject of unemployment, and may ultimately make

constructive recommendations to the government after their present deliberations have been completed."

A delegation representing the business organizations of Vancouver and Victoria, which has been urging the appointment of a non-partisan unpaid commission to investigate and report on provincial finances will meet the government in Victoria on Friday for a round-table conference.

Request for appointment of the proposed commission will be presented with many new arguments to show its necessity, it is stated.

The question of unemployment will not be discussed at Friday's conference, as had been intended.

A special committee named by the business organizations is still at work collecting data and a general meeting will be held to formulate a program before any definite submission is made to the government.

# GALLERY JOTTINGS

By J. Edward Norcross

VICTORIA, April 13.—Just when it looked as if we were never going to emerge from this session, rays of light began to pierce the encircling gloom.

The trees began to open out and glints of proration sunshine appeared early Tuesday afternoon when, having, as it thought, disposed of the Chiropractors bill, the House went to work with such goodwill on the order paper that by dinner-time there were but three or four really serious bits



of work to be finished, clearing the way for the debate on the report of the Unemployment Committee as a grand finale the story of which must be left to another hand.

This morning His Honor will come down and give royal assent to some forty or fifty bills and the fourth session of the Seventeenth Legislature will come to an end.

It will come to an end, and with its termination the last may also be seen of the Seventeenth Legislature itself. It is not at all improbable that the 48 gentlemen who compose the membership of this most exclusive club will never again all assemble here.

Besides the debate on the unemployment report at the very end of the evening sitting there was but one other outstanding feature of a day devoted to hard work. This was the Chiropractors' bill.

## Chiro's Baptism of Fire

That ancient gentleman Tantalus had nothing on the chiropractors of this province. It will be recalled that one day last week the Chiropractors' bill passed second reading by a margin of but one vote. It came up again in committee at the afternoon sitting.

Forthwith it was the subject of a determined attack which, as it turned out, proved to be the baptism of fire of the latest recruit to the membership of the House, Mr. King, of Columbia, being named as chairman of committee.

Usually a new member is tried out in this position under easier conditions. Mr. King at once found himself trying to bank down volcanic fires. He had no sooner called the committee to order than Mr. Dick was on his feet moving that the chairman leave the chair.

This, of course, is one of the established ways of killing a bill out of hand.

Forthwith the storm broke. Mr. Twigg was irate. Also he was disgusted with such miserable tactics. Furthermore he believed the motion was out of order.

Mr. Manson, as was to be expected, disagreed with Mr. Twigg, and Mr. Pooley, as was meet and right, advised the chairman on the question. He declared the motion quite in order.

The division bells were rung although a division proper, that is one in which the names are recorded, cannot be taken in committee and Mr. King, after allowing the correct interval as recorded by the egg-boller on the Speaker's desk, called for the vote.

The motion was defeated by 21 to 16 and it looked as if the Chiropractors' bill would have a safe, if stormy, passage.

## Stormy Session Passed

Stormy it certainly was. The early sections were fought over one by one, but eventually the opponents of the bill tired of that game and Mr. Twigg was permitted to insert some minor amendments without molestation.

When the last section was disposed of there was no reason to suppose that the bill would not be reported out of committee at once and pass third reading at the evening sitting.

Mr. Manson, however, moved Mr. Dick's resolution over again, that the chairman do leave the chair. There was the inevitable argument over procedure and the division bells rang again, bringing back to the House members who had stepped out into the lobbies thinking the battle was over.

To everybody's surprise the motion was carried by 20 votes to 18, the supporters of the bill, in fact, demanding a recount, and instead of reporting the bill complete with amendments Mr. King had to tell the Speaker that he had been ordered out of the chair. Mr. Michell and Captain Fitzsimmons had caused the tragedy by switching their votes.

## Twigg Produces Pulmotor

Even then, however, the Chiropractors' bill was not so dead but that it might be resuscitated. Mr. Twigg came along with the pulmotor at the evening sitting.

He moved that the Bill be replaced on the order paper forthwith. Mr. Manson said this could not be done. Mr. Twigg could only move to appoint the order for a subsequent day.

There was a good deal of argument and the Speaker finally declared that Mr. Twigg must move for a suspension of the rules and the House must be unanimous about it. The House was not unanimous, so Mr. Twigg tried another tack. He moved that the bill be restored at the next sitting.

This resulted in a division and the motion was lost, 19 for, 20 against.

It looks as if the bill were now finally defunct until next session, but when a bill has as many lives as this one it does not do to be too sure.

Third readings being under way, Mr. Pattullo made a final but unavailing protest against the Redistribution bill.

The leader of the opposition was rather suspicious, too, about the bill amending the Radium Act.

evoking explanations from Mr. McKenzie that were marked with a tinge of acerbity.

Further demonstrating his capacity to harbor unpleasant thoughts, Mr. Pattullo suggested that the powers the government was taking in the bill amending the Revenue Act would enable it to cut down the grants to municipalities at its own pleasure.

Mr. Jones was so horrified at the idea that he would contemplate

such a thing that he refused to listen to Mr. Pattullo at all and insisted on the bill going through as it stood.

## Gov't Refuses to Modify

The Moratorium bill was read a second time, and as the House was now in a hurry to finish up, it was put through committee in readiness for third reading in the evening. There was a very lively debate but the Government was determined in its resistance to all suggestions looking to modification in either direction.

Late in the afternoon the last bill of the session came down, one amending the Workmen's Compensation Act. There had been rumors that the bill would make changes in the personnel of the board but it proved to be an innocent measure made up of technical

sections drafted with the board's approval.

A tribute of sympathy, voiced by the Premier and Mr. Pattullo, with the member for Nanaimo in his bereavement concluded the afternoon sitting. Short work was made of the rest of the legislation in hand when the House met again after dinner.

## Business Done

Third reading: Bills amending the Game Act; the Provincial Elections Act; the Superannuation Act; the Shops Regulation Act; the Constitution Act; the Savings and Loan Associations Act; the Fuel Oil Tax Act; the Workmen's Compensation Act; the Radium Act and the Revenue Act; the Income Tax bill; the Liability of Municipalities bill, and the Moratorium bill.

# MORATORIUM BILL PASSES B. C. HOUSE

## Attorney General Refuses to Widen Scope to Include Interest Payment

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 13.—Legislation providing for a moratorium on payment of mortgages in British Columbia subject to approval by the courts passed the Legislature Tuesday with Attorney-General Pooley refusing to depart from the original lines of the bill. He was urged to widen it to include interest payments, as suggested by the Vancouver City Council through its solicitor, J. B. Williams.

As finally passed, the bill provides that payment of mortgages now falling due may be suspended subject to approval by the courts. The bill is subject to cancellation by order of the Lieutenant-Governor. It applies to principal only, the only change in the original draft made by Mr. Pooley being one reducing the charge against mortgagees for an appeal to the courts from \$25 to \$15.

## SEEK WIDE RELIEF

T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, and William Dick fought for wider relief than the bill provided. They argued many property owners, especially small householders, faced the loss of their property because they could not pay the interest. Some of them were in the breadline, they claimed.

Other members fought unsuccessfully for a moratorium on taxes or the right of municipalities to grant an amortization. Without it the city was forced to seize property, which they did not desire, for non-payment of taxes.

A. M. Manson thought greater discretion should be left to the courts to decide cases on their merits. He was in accord with Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., in claiming a general moratorium would work a great hardship on some mortgagees relying on interest payments for subsistence.

Mr. Dick said he had telegrams from 40 small real estate firms in favor of the moratorium. Larger real estate firms over the long distance telephone had told him they were in favor of the moratorium on principal and taxes for one year, but thought interest payments should be made when due.

Seven hundred taxpayers were on the breadline in Vancouver and could not pay the principal, interest or taxes.

If the bill went through in the present form it would force the city to confiscate property. He would like to see an act like that of the war years.

There were 1800 mortgages on Fraser Valley farms and farmers were desperate.

It was a pitiful situation in Vancouver, he said, where the "white collar class" was forced to the extremity of taking furniture out of the house piece by piece to get money to live.

## MAITLAND DEFENDS INVESTORS

Mr. Maitland said he could appreciate Mr. Dick's standpoint, but the average citizen did not realize how many small investors had their money in mortgages and could not live without the payments.

J. W. Berry, Conservative, Delta, thought Mr. Dick's picture of the Fraser Valley farmers was a little dark. They had three meals a day and a place to sleep and as no one wanted farms these days, there was little danger of foreclosing on mortgages. The farmers desired an unrestricted moratorium for a year.

Colonel Nelson Spencer, Conservative, Vancouver, thought Mr. Pooley's bill was the safest and most satisfactory measure to meet present conditions.

A. Wells Gray, Liberal, New Westminster, said the municipalities would welcome the power to grant a moratorium on taxes rather than be forced to take for non-payment property they did not want.

Mr. Dick pointed to the high mortgage charges and increased interest rate since Government bonds were paying six and a half per cent.



Wednesday, April 13, 1932.

### BUSINESS SPEAKS

What Harold Brown of the Vancouver Board of Trade told the Legislature in Victoria, every man on the street in British Columbia, and in all Canada for that matter, has been thinking for the past year.

The public at last has its bellyfull of politicians and is not afraid to say so.

This public and business revolt against the ineptitude of party government is not directed against any party or against any particular men. It is simply a flat refusal to go on with the business of running an archaic debating society while the country is full of unemployment and distress.

Nor is this revolt confined to British Columbia. Only last week Norman Smith's Conservative Ottawa Journal came out flatly in a most admirable editorial and told Parliament that it was making a holy show of itself.

Said the Journal:

Parliament's capacity for folly and futility amounts to a national scandal . . . The majority of people are fed-up on the play-acting, disillusioned and disgusted at the spectacle of a lot of grown men behaving like a group of children . . . While Mr. King worries about the constitution and Mr. Bennett worries about personal power, Canadian business languishes, industry is unsettled and nobody knows what is to be done about unemployment relief . . . Silence before such a sham would be as bad as the sham itself.

This is no thoughtless outburst. It is a considered article, reflecting the settled opinion of a responsible Conservative newspaper and thousands of Liberal and Conservative readers.

The truth is that the Bennetts, the Kings, the Tolmies and all the rest of them are already posing for their statues as a treat for posterity instead of making some definite attempt to do something for the present generation at the present time.

The ten millions of Canadians are not interested in Mr. King's legal piffle, nor in Mr. Bennett's oratory, nor in the Tolmie Government's excuses. The question they are asking is, "When do we eat?"

And what are either Ottawa or Victoria doing to answer that? What has business done to make them answer it? What have the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the Boards of Trade or any other organized body done?

There are four major projects before this country that have a direct bearing on the earning power of Canada:

1. Tourists. What has Bennett done to promote tourist trade or even to stop our steadily dwindling tourist receipts?

2. Trade with Russia. Down in Quebec they are offering up prayers for failing industries that could be selling their aluminum products, etc., to Russia and thriving on it if Ottawa would only stop talking tripe about the soviet menace.

3. Beauharnois. This is the most constructive project in the whole East. Yet Ottawa has made a political football of it for a year.

4. Peace River. Beauharnois in the East and Peace River in the West would give this country a new lease of life. What has Ottawa done about either? Nothing.

Is it any wonder that the public is in rebellion and business is up in arms?

Business will finally have to work this country out of the hole and pay the Government's bills. It is pretty nearly time that business was demanding something more tangible and sensible for its money.

## Jones Abandons Plan To Tax Liquor Sales

### Alternate Scheme Will Further Cut Into Municipal Profit Share

By Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, April 13.—What has become of the proposed 5 per cent tax on liquor sales, announced by Hon. J. W. Jones, Finance Minister, in the budget speech?

No legislation making this effective has been presented to the House.

Asked at noon Tuesday whether any bill was intended Mr. Jones said he was still undecided.

"If we do not bring in a Bill we can just increase the price," he said. "If we make it a sales tax the price need not be changed."

Later in the day he stated that no bill would be presented.

Presumably the Government, having control of the Liquor Board, considers that the revenue can be obtained simply by charging the Liquor Board 5 per cent on the gross sales before beginning to make the division with the municipalities.

This may be done, but it is absolutely illegal, according to eminent legal authorities. The act states that certain specific percentages of the profits shall go to the Government and to the municipalities.

Whether or not the price is increased any deduction from the gross sales without special statutory authority would be a direct deprivation from the municipalities.

Five percent of the gross receipts would be about 25 per cent of the profits. This would leave only 75 per cent of the profits for division with the municipalities.

The real result of the course taken by the Government is to raid still further the revenues of the municipalities by an amount running into several hundred thousand dollars. The question will likely be raised today before the House prorogues.

Thursday, April 14, 1932.

## Our Error—We Thought That Was the 'Samaritan'



Killing of the Chiropractor bill in the Legislature by a few members trying to get even because the Drugless Physician bill got little support is a raw but illuminating example of "practical" politics as practiced at Victoria. It is a curious revelation of the political mind that some of the very offenders in this case are loudest in their protests against citizens who are determined to learn more about how public business is done—or not done.

**A P R**

**1932**



# Pattullo Asks House To Deplore Passing Of Grand Juries

VICTORIA, March 31.—In a resolution, of which he gave notice today, T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, asks the Legislature to record its regret at the action of Attorney-General Pooley in recommending to the Federal Government the abolition of grand juries. Mr. Pattullo's resolution points out that a bill abolishing grand juries in British Columbia has been passed by Parliament and only requires royal assent to become law, this action apparently having been taken at the request of Mr. Pooley. He says the grand jury has been "part and parcel" of our criminal jurisprudence for several centuries.

# B.C. TOWNS MAY DOUBLE THEIR TAXES

Bill Would Permit Levy Up To 35 Mills On the Dollar.

# TAX IMPROVEMENTS UP TO 75 PER CENT.

# Commissioner Control for Towns Temporarily In Distress.

VICTORIA, April 1.—Relief for B. C. municipalities puzzled by a fixed statutory limit of twenty mills on the dollar for general purposes, appeared on the legislative horizon yesterday, with introduction of amendments to the Municipal Act, which would waive for two years this arbitrary maximum, and permit of a levy up to thirty-five mills for general purposes. The variation would apply only during 1932 and 1933. A tax on 75 per cent. of improvements also would be authorized.

The amending bill was introduced by Attorney-General Pooley and received first reading without discussion. It has eighteen sections, two of which are of considerable importance to B. C. municipal centres. In addition to the proposed waiving of a clause providing for the setting up of commissioner control in any centre that may be temporarily forced to suspend payment on its obligations; no actual case is feared. Subject to an order from the Supreme Court, the province would appoint a commissioner, with full authority to run the affairs of any such centre until such time as stability was again reached. General powers in the bill would give a conditional measure of discretion to the provincial authorities to pass regulations deemed necessary for meeting any situation in this connection.

# VANCOUVER NOT AFFECTED.

The bill is an act to amend the Municipal Act and does not therefore apply to the City of Vancouver. It provides:

1. That for general purposes a municipality may in the years 1932 and 1933 impose a mill rate not exceeding 35 mills on the dollar. This compares to the present legal maximum of 20 mills. The general purpose mill rate is exclusive of that imposed for bonded indebtedness and schools. It applies to general operating expenses such as road maintenance.

2. In the case of a municipality failing to provide for payment of either principal money, or interest on any debentures issued by the municipality, any creditor or elector of the municipality may apply to a judge of the Supreme Court for an order authorizing the appointment of a commissioner for the municipality, with all the powers theretofore vested in the mayor or reeve, the council, police commissioners, school trustees and other officers.

3. Improvements may be taxed up to 75 per cent. of their value as against the present 50 per cent.

# COMMISSIONER MAY PASS BY-LAWS.

In the event of a commissioner being appointed in a defaulting municipality, all councillors and officers shall be deemed to have retired from office. The commissioner would have the power to pass by-laws as the council had previously.

His appointment may be cancelled at any time by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-council, and a new one appointed. Also the same authority may at any time provide for the election of civic bodies in a municipality for which a commissioner has been appointed.

Various recommendations in regard to debentures made by the municipal committee have been embodied in the act. A municipal council would have power to enter into an agreement with any person or corporation, fixing upon a definite sum as the annual assessment for municipal taxation, but the sum would not be less than the amount of the assessment as shown in the last revised assessment roll.

The council would have power, with the consent of the inspector of municipalities, to pass by-laws for borrowing money by hypothecating any securities purchased and held under the terms of the act.

Where any money has been borrowed, or is proposed to be borrowed, the council may set aside as security for payment of such money the whole or any part of all unpaid taxes assessed or levied in any prior year or any part thereof. They may also hypothecate as security the whole or any part of any debentures secured on tax-sale lands of the municipality. The money received from those taxes and sale of tax-sale lands shall be applied only to payment of the money so borrowed and not intermingled with other funds, or income of the municipality.

# B.C. Asks Ottawa to Postpone Jobless Meeting for One Day

VICTORIA, April 1.—The Provincial Government has asked Premier Bennett to postpone his national conference on unemployment, originally set for April 9. A date later, in April, is suggested, in order that the provincial representatives may finish their work in the Legislature in advance.

The attitude which the British Columbia authorities will take at the conference on the general problem of unemployment, probably will not be determined until the unemployment committee of the Legislature has reported. Its conclusions after its recent enquiries are expected to guide the government largely in its future policy, particularly on such questions as unemployment insurance.

That the province will ask a larger federal contribution towards the total cost of unemployment relief is regarded as certain.

# Legislature Approves Silver Stabilization

VICTORIA, April 1.—Members of the Legislature unanimously voted Thursday in favor of a resolution of Capt. James Fitzsimmons, Conservative of Esau-Slocan, which urged that Canadian representatives at the coming Imperial Conference be instructed to bring up the question of stabilization of silver.

In moving his resolution, Captain Fitzsimmons urged that Canada might well increase the use of silver currency, thereby increasing the demand for the metal to help the silver mines of the Dominion, and particularly of British Columbia.

"Even if we are not successful, we should at least act," declared Col. Fred Lister, Conservative of Creston. "It is no use lying down on such a vitally important matter to this province."

A copy of the resolution will be forwarded to the Dominion Government.

# Log of the House

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

*It Is Deadly Dull and Respectable In the House as March Goes Out—The Lamb and the Lion, in Deference to the Season, Lie Down Together—The Lawyers Co-operate—And Mr. Hinchliffe Comes Smiling Through.*

VICTORIA, April 1.—March went out of the Legislature Thursday like a sadder and a wiser lamb. It went out with a dullness most profound, most unfortunate for those who record the House's doings, but comforting withal to the taxpayers. It was the dullness, you see, of high endeavor and self-denial after a terrible lapse into peanut politics on the previous day. In this lamblike atmosphere of March's end there was nothing of interest, but there was a good deal of quiet business which, heaven knows, is necessary if we are to get out of here before the middle of April.

Looking over the order paper at the end of the day, and contemplating the great mass of business yet to appear, whips thought we might be out by a week from today—that is, with luck and a friendly opposition. Without either we can't get out next week. For it is still true, even after all this time, that the big business of the session, the most contentious business, has yet to be done. It has yet to be introduced. For all we know, it has yet to be decided finally in those dim, shadowy regions of state where such things are decided.

The first business of Thursday was to pass Capt. Fitzsimmons' motion, which recommends that somehow, somewhere, something will be done about stabilizing silver some time. Capt. Fitzsimmons has struggled valiantly for two years to help the silver industry of this province. He has struggled against pretty heavy odds, including the entire monetary system of the world and most of its governments. But he has not despaired. He wants the Imperial Conference to take up the silver question and, after he had made a modest and plain speech on the subject, the House backed him unanimously.

Mr. Pooley followed with a series of new bills which he had the honor of presenting fresh from Government House, one after the other. Then Mr. Manson held the floor with an extremely able speech on drugless healing and public health, which showed his powers as an advocate perhaps to better advantage even than his utterances as a politician.

Mr. Manson's argument, which you could accept or not as you pleased, was that while the House had no moral right to stop a man doing what he liked with himself, even if he wanted to jump into the harbor, it had to protect society from the consequences of any such act; it had to protect society, for example, from the spread of infectious diseases, even if people who had them were prepared to take treatment from incompetent practitioners. This, of course, was only the beginning of a long argument over the drugless healers' bill, which will be followed by another on the chiropractors' bill, of which Mr. Manson is the chief antagonist.

# THE LAWYERS WORK TOGETHER.

It was a lawyers' day altogether. The lawyers made good progress with complicated legislation, the details of which are by no means clear to everyone. At one stage, indeed, we beheld the remarkable spectacle of Mr. Twigg and Mr. Manson, heads together, amiably sorting out some of the tangled threads of litigation—truly the March lion lying down with the March lamb.

The March hare appeared later in the person of Mr. Hinchliffe. Mr. Hinchliffe had brought the estimates of his education department for inspection and in such argument he is so fleet of foot that the lambs and lions of the opposition have the greatest difficulty in ever catching up with him. We spent the rest of the afternoon trying to catch up with Mr. Hinchliffe and while we sighted him occasionally, we never succeeded in overhauling him.

In his best humor Mr. Hinchliffe piloted through his estimates with a smile instead of the other more deadly weapons which he can use on occasion. Possibly the House has had its fill of such things and the classes in ancient political history recently conducted by a group of eminent members on both sides were discontinued. That at least was a relief. Instead, we stuck to Mr. Hinchliffe's estimates and, for the moment, probably only for the moment, we let the dead past bury its dead.

# HINCHLIFE IS GOOD-NATURED.

When Mr. Pattullo ventured to think that the hon. minister of education did not understand all the intricacies of finance, Mr. Hinchliffe replied, with a mildness too mild to be quite without galle, that this was true, since he hadn't fraternized, as Mr. Pattullo had done, with the financial barons of Wall Street—a subtle reference to Mr. Pattullo's alleged Wall Street friends, about whom the government loves, for some curious reason, to talk on every possible occasion. Anyway, Mr. Pattullo replied that he had, indeed, been to Wall Street and had learned so much there that he was now able to instruct Mr. Jones in the higher arts of finance. That, too, was why he was able to analyse the finances of the government and pronounce them grossly extravagant.

With a good nature which nothing, not even Mr. Pattullo could ruffle, Mr. Hinchliffe said Mr. Pattullo was evidently following the system of the late Dr. Coues, in the belief that if he called the government extravagant several times a day, after a while the people would believe it. Mr. Hinchliffe added that later on he proposed to go about the country telling the people about the extravagance of Mr. Pattullo's government. This remark threatened to plunge us into another afternoon of exhumation and inquest, but happily Mr. Hinchliffe did not pursue it, and we went on quietly enough.

There appeared to be a genuine interest on both sides in educational matters, which probably would prove surprising and encouraging to the electors. Mr. Manson, for example, made an impressive plea for that unhappy generation of boys who are leaving school these days and finding no work. He proposed that, instead of discouraging them from studies, the state help them to stay in school and educate themselves further, until work was available. At which point Mr. King of Columbia fell backwards out of his chair, but whether because he was impressed too much by his colleague from Omineca or was slumbering at the wrong angle, the official record, the Votes and Proceedings, did not state.

# MANSON ADVOCATES CONTROL OF HEALERS

# Declares Many Practising Medicine Here Are Impostors.

VICTORIA, April 1.—There were "shocking cases" of drugless healers and chiropractors hanging out their shingles in Vancouver, alleged A. M. Manson, K.C., Liberal of Omineca, in the Legislature Thursday. He urged that the real problem was to sort out the competent ones and let them practice under the Medical Act.

"It is not a case of individual but public concern," he said. "Would anyone allow untrained men to deal with the recent outbreak in Vancouver? Sane drugless healers do not touch infectious diseases. All honor to them—but what of those who do? Beyond all question some of these men have done things which cost human life."

Under the terms of the act respecting drugless healers which was under discussion, Mr. Manson claimed that "men who have no right in the world to deal with the human body will be given the right to do so."

"Many of them are impostors. They take the cash of gullible people and give them nothing substantial in return."

"How can you sort the sheep from the goats? Many of them are not equipped to diagnose—an equipment which is necessary for protection of the public. Unfortunately in the case of infectious diseases it is a matter of public concern. It not only affects the individual but those with whom he comes in contact if he is not properly treated and isolated."

## RELIEF MEN'S FOOD COSTS 29 CENTS DAY

Story of 50,000 Blankets  
Purchased Untrue,  
Says Witness.

### McGEOUGH IS NOT RECALLED

More Than 79 Carpenters  
Working at Deroche Camp,  
Not Four as Stated.

VICTORIA, April 1.—It now costs an average of 29 cents a day to feed the men in government relief camps throughout the province, A. R. Pennington, accountant of the public works department, testified before the unemployment relief committee of the Legislature, Mr. Pennington told how a system of rationing the daily feeding cost per man had been cut down to one-third, while the men were better fed as a result of the standard scientific menus instituted. This rate included not only the cost of food and freight, but cook's wages.

While the men were working, 50 cents a month was charged for medical aid and one cent a day for workmen's compensation. He said the compensation loss ran high, as many of the men had been on outdoor work and there had been two or three killed.

#### McGEOUGH NOT RECALLED.

An attempt of Liberal members to recall M. H. McGeough, Dominion representative for unemployment relief in B. C. as a witness, was turned down flatly by the unemployment enquiry committee of the Legislature today.

All Conservatives opposed recalling him and all Liberals favored it.

"The whole thing is a blockade," declared A. M. Manson, K.C., Liberal of Omineca. "The government is shutting off information."

The question of recalling Mr. McGeough centred on the recurrent charges that 104 carpenters had been on the payroll of the Deroche area camps on October 16 while only four or five were working.

Dr. R. W. Alward, Conservative of Prince George, moved that McGeough be not recalled as a witness. "He was here long enough," he declared, "and members of the committee had enough time to question him."

There was high feeling shown during the session. "Every one of the Liberal charges have been exploded," asserted W. R. Rutledge, Conservative of Burnaby. "We are getting sick of fishing expeditions and quibbling."

"How can we put a closure on this futile feeble questioning," exclaimed J. A. Berry, Conservative of Delta. "We are simply wasting our time; I would wind it up right now."

Sydney H. West, accountant for the

Deroche camps, was first witness. He was asked about the visit of M. H. McGeough, Dominion representative for unemployment relief in B. C., October 16 last.

Witness recalled the discussion about carpenters. "Most of them were carpenters," he said, "as we were just building the camps." For the five camps on October 16 there were forty-seven carpenters on the payroll. There were ten less the next day.

#### REFUTES STATEMENT.

Mr. West quoted from the time-books for his figures. Mr. McGeough had charged there were 104 carpenters, being paid as such, on that date and only four or five working.

Throughout October there were never more than seventy-nine carpenters working on one day, Mr. West stated.

Major R. M. Taylor, who went out into the field in connection with locating and constructing unemployment relief camps, was next called as witness.

He said that from his experience the government camps cost less per man than those of private companies.

Major Taylor testified that private contracting could not have handled unemployment works satisfactorily under the existing conditions. He said the government paid much less to keep men in its work than contractors pay. For example, a private company's foreman would get \$200 or \$250 a month, and the government paid him only \$150.

#### BLANKET STORY BLOWS UP.

Asked about the charge made in the House of Commons that the government had bought 50,000 blankets and taken one manufacturer "out of the red," Major Taylor said the total purchases, as shown on government records, were 7700 new blankets and 820 second-hand blankets.

He said he knew nothing of the alleged burning of meat in the Big Bend camps because it could not be used. He had heard no complaints on that score.

Liberal members said Major Taylor was not in a position to know the facts of this matter, as he had not been at the Big Bend camps continuously.

He flatly denied that camps had been "luxuriously" furnished.

### Spend Money on Schools Rather Than On Prisons, Urges Opposition Chief

VICTORIA, April 1.—"Those who say that the three R's are all sufficient in elementary education are fighting a losing battle. Instead of less education today we should be giving more."

So contended T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, in the Legislature Thursday when attacking educational estimates in the matter of giving municipalities discretionary power to charge parents for sending children over 16 years of age to public schools.

"Sooner or later," he said, "we will have to face the problem of giving our young people work or letting them continue at school. Many of these youngsters who can not get work are taking to loose habits and crime. I say it is better to spend on schools than on prisons."

A. M. Manson, K.C., Liberal of Omineca, thought that "we are pressing our children a little too hard in getting them out of high school by the age of 16." It was a very youthful age to go to University, he declared.

Some kind of work for these young school graduates was the real problem, Jack Loutet, Conservative of North Vancouver, stated.

### B. C. Legislature Is Expected to Prorogue in Week

VICTORIA, April 1.—The Legislature, having given up hope of finishing its business before the week-end, expects now to prorogue about Friday, April 8. Apparently the two biggest bills of the session, the New Taxation and Redistribution acts, will not be introduced until next week.

### B. C. Members Victims Of April Fool Jokers

VICTORIA, April 1.—When members of the Legislature arrived at the Legislative Buildings today most of them found telephone numbers hanging on their hooks in the cloak-room, with instructions to call immediately. When they found themselves talking to the city police station, Chinese laundries and low resorts, they realized that, in the rush of governing the country they had forgotten it was All Fool's Day.

#### To Control Cabarets.

VICTORIA, April 1.—New powers are given to municipalities for control of cabarets under provisions of the Municipal Act Amendment Act introduced in the Legislature Thursday. The council may control and license such entertainments; define or prescribe what shall constitute a cabaret, and limit or prohibit any amusements or entertainments carried on. If there is not compliance with the regulations the council may provide for closing the cabaret.

### Never Been Done!

WE know it will seem a desperate sort of thing to suggest a new department of government these days, but we think there would be scope and welcome for a department to be known as the Consolation of Indignant Taxpayers' Department. It wouldn't need to have a special minister of its own, but all the cabinet—except the honorable minister of finance, of course—could be ministers ex-officio. We don't suggest that anything much more would be done for indignant taxpayers than is done now. But what wasn't done—if we may put it so—would be officially not done. There would be a department of government empowered by statute not to do anything for taxpayers except to sympathize with them—and somehow we feel that the taxpayers might feel better about it.

This idea occurs to us upon hearing how the increased gas tax was passed at Victoria. It was passed, and it was a foregone conclusion that it would have to pass. Hon. Finance Minister Jones hopes to get an extra half million of revenue by taxing the motorist 7 cents a gallon for his gasoline instead of 5, and whether or not that is a sanguine or extravagant expectation, Mr. Jones is hard pressed and Mr. Jones must take chances. It had to be done, with the government members—except five who were not there—voting aye in their souls and consciences, and all the opposition members voting patriotically or politically no. But it was not done without deep expressions of sympathy for the unfortunate taxpaying motorist—it was not done without the due proffer of heartfelt consolation.

The trouble about this consolation is that it is too offhand and unofficial. It is true that Hon. Minister of Mines McKenzie offered the consolation of a federal enquiry into the prices of gasoline in Canada, and it is true he said he was sure that that enquiry would result in cheaper gasoline. But when a mere minister of mines says a thing like that, everybody is bound to recall the fact that never, in all the recorded history of human government, did an official enquiry result in cheaper prices of anything, and especially in cheaper prices of government enquiries. No, if those kind words had to be said, they would have been much better said by the minister presiding over the department of the Consolation of Indignant Taxpayers.

But perhaps our view is too provincial; perhaps, like Senator Logan of Kentucky, we ought to take the larger view of the historian and the philosopher. Discussing the cutting of government expenditures in the United States Senate the other day, Senator Logan said it had "never been done in the past." Hear his learned and dispassionate scepticism: "Egypt was unable to do it. Persia was unable to do it. Babylon was unable to do it. Greece and Rome were unable to do it. And I do not know that we are any wiser in our generation than their statesmen were."

To which we can only add that, so far, British Columbia has been unable to do it, either. But perhaps Mr. Pattullo, who voted against the increase of the gas tax, and who did not indicate an alternative source of revenue, really does know how to do it, and has merely, in the pressure of sessional politics, forgotten to reveal his secret.

### Genera

TWO amendments to the attorney-general's interest in these tax and high taxation permits up to a maximum purposes during other authorizes amendments up to 75 per cent. of improvement.

The 20-mill limit acted as an effective extravagance. H. brake on the plin palities would be today. As it is, out more than year to meet fix rate is not under cils. The debt r their control. T the money with Unless money is—and there is a from the general costs can be met need for addition.

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In Vancouve and smaller cit eral purposes i improvements c per cent. The will not apply own charter, ar of this nature

### Would Put R Under 'Co

VICTORIA, April 1.—"scandalous" fashion bosses are conduct relief work in the Manson, K.C., Lh urged in the Leg that the public send out its field under competent



Friday, April 1, 1932.

## General Tax Rate.

**T**WO amendments to the Municipal Act, just introduced at Victoria by the attorney-general, are of particular interest in these times of financial stress and high taxation. One of the amendments permits municipal councils to levy up to a maximum of 85 mills for general purposes during 1932 and 1933. The other authorizes the taxation of improvements up to 75 per cent. of their value. At present the maximum rate allowed for general purposes is 20 mills, while 50 per cent. of improvements is exempt.

The 20-mill limitation has, in the past, acted as an effective brake on municipal extravagance. Had there been a similar brake on the piling up of debt, the municipalities would be in much better shape today. As it is, some of them are paying out more than half their revenue each year to meet fixed charges. The school rate is not under the control of the councils. The debt rate quickly gets beyond their control. The general rate provides the money with which to come and go. Unless money is borrowed for relief work—and there is a limit to that—it is only from the general rate that unemployment costs can be met. So at present there is need for additional latitude.

It may be thought that there is danger in increasing the maximum general rate from 20 mills to 35. But it will be observed that there is a time limit. The authority to levy the higher rate will lapse after the end of 1933. Meanwhile, though the councils will have power to meet emergencies, they will not be under much temptation to be extravagant. It is in buoyant times that the urge to larger expenditure is most difficult to resist. It is in good times that we pile up obligations. It is in bad times that we meet them.

The authority to levy on 75 per cent. of improvements comes opportunely, though it is probable that many municipalities will not avail themselves of it. There are several that have never levied any tax on improvements, though they have long had the right to do so. The whole weight in these municipalities is thrown on the land, with the result that the tax rate has gone up to such levels as 61 mills in Burnaby and West Vancouver, 56 mills in New Westminster and 50 mills in North Vancouver District. Unproductive lands can not continue to bear rates like these, and more and more lands are falling to the municipalities at tax sales and so are ceasing to pay at all. The authorization to tax improvements on a 75 per cent. basis should, if used, have the effect of spreading taxation more evenly and of leaving more of the unimproved lands in private hands.

In Vancouver, as in the municipalities and smaller cities, the tax rate for general purposes is limited to 20 mills, and improvements can be taxed only up to 50 per cent. The Municipal Act changes will not apply to the city, which has its own charter, and no charter amendments of this nature have been sought.

## Would Put Road Bosses Under 'Competent Men'

**VICTORIA, April 2.**—To offset the "scandalous fashion" in which road bosses are conducting unemployment relief work in the province, A. M. Manson, K.C., Liberal of Omineca, urged in the Legislature on Friday that the public works department send out its field staff and put them under competent engineers.

Saturday, April 2, 1932.

# Liquor Board And Policies Are Under Fire

### Three-Man Control Saved \$350,000 Year Says Pooley.

### FAR TOO MANY BREAKAGES

### Profit of 200 Per Cent on Some Brands, Charges Manson.

**VICTORIA, April 2.**—Through a barrage of charges and counter-charges which took in present liquor prices, activities of the three-man Liquor Board and insurance premiums paid by the past government, the Legislature came out Friday with an endorsement on second reading of Attorney-General R. H. Pooley's amendments to the Liquor Act. There was no division.

Speaking for the government, Mr. Pooley claimed that the three-man board had saved the province \$350,000 per annum in administration and reminded the opposition that the price of beer to the board had been reduced. Recalling the record of the past government in this respect, he charged that there had been a great waste through "breakages," many of which, he intimated, were intentional, and that excessive premiums had been paid on liquor which he connected with a "great party worker in Vancouver."

From the opposition side A. M. Manson, K.C., Liberal of Omineca, charged flatly that the price of liquor to the public had been increased by the present administration, in spite of lower wholesale costs to the government. He claimed that, on some brands of liquor on the shelves, the government made a profit of over 200 per cent. and that in spite of a decreasing business, administrative costs at head office of the Liquor Board soared from \$61,000 to \$117,000.

He brought out a blue pamphlet which he alleged was a reprint of a Victoria Colonist editorial and stated that it had been distributed by the Liquor Board to the public at the taxpayers' expense. "The government should tell Mr. H. B. Thomson, chairman of the board, that he should confine himself to the liquor business," he added, "instead of taking part in municipal and provincial politics, and going into foreign countries to advocate the system of government control."

### 55 PER CENT. OF VOTE DECISIVE

Briefly the Liquor Act amendments introduced by Mr. Pooley provide:

1. That, in the case of a beer by the glass plebiscite, 55 per cent. of the total vote, either way, shall be sufficient to establish the district as for or against beer parlors, and proclamation of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council shall follow. Previously there was no definite legislation as to a majority for establishment of beer by the glass.

2. A district which has voted in favor of beer parlors may, by another plebiscite, vote "dry," a provision which was not contained in the act before.

3. The government has power to reduce the three-man liquor board from three to one or two members.

### NO STATEMENT ON ONE-MAN BOARD.

4. No club shall be granted a liquor license unless it was in operation as a club at January 1, 1929, or, being formed thereafter was in continuous operation as a club for at least three years immediately prior to the date of its application for a club license.

Mr. Pooley declined to state definitely in reply to an opposition question whether or not the three-man liquor board would be reduced. "If you have patience you will see later on," he said. By pooling of freights and general economies, he added, the present board had effected a huge saving to the province.

He referred to excessive insurance premiums paid by the past administration on their liquor stocks. "Where the difference went I do not know," he declared. "The policy may have had something to do with a great party worker in Vancouver. That may explain why they had to pay excessive premiums." Dr. W. H. Sutherland, Liberal of Revelstoke and former minister of public works, might know something about that, he continued. "I do not mind you saying that," replied Dr. Sutherland.

"Well, you did not take any objection at the time," said the attorney-general.

T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, rose to strongly object to "such a statement."

### NO OBJECTION TO PARTY MEN IF CAPABLE.

Opening his attack with a sharp criticism of paying Hugh Davidson \$25,000 to "make way for some of the government unemployed," Mr. Manson claimed that some of the Conservative members had rebelled against the salaries paid the three-man board. The salaries jumped from \$12,000 to \$30,000, he said. "Does the government intend to get down to the one-man board?" he asked. "Why do they not come out openly and say so one way or the other?"

"I have no objection to a party man being appointed, providing he is a capable man. And I might say that anyone who talks nonsense about eliminating partisanship does not know the facts. There must be many good business men today who could take over this post."

The former attorney-general stated that the previous government had decided, after strong pressure of the Conservative opposition, to make the liquor board accountable to the House, not to the government. The present administration had, on coming into office, brought the liquor board "directly under the government," he said.

"Don't forget the decrease in the price of beer," put in Mr. Pooley.

"I am not forgetting that," replied Mr. Manson. "But I would like to point out that administrative cost of the liquor board increased from 4.82 per cent. in 1929, to 6.49 in 1931. Printing and stationery costs increased by \$10,000, and administrative costs at head office by nearly \$40,000."

# Municipal and B.C. Tax Basis To Be Revised

## Government Planning Study of Recurring Revenue Problem.

## NO CHANGE IN THIS BUDGET

## May Eliminate Grants And Increase Civic Taxation Fields.

VICTORIA, April 2.—To British Columbia municipalities' request for moderation of the Jones budget, the Provincial Government gave a final refusal today. At the same time it announced that it plans this year to study the whole problem of provincial and municipal finances and put them on a new basis. Municipalities were led to hope that at the next session of the House the long wrangle between them and the province over taxation rights would be ended to the satisfaction of all concerned.

"It is impossible now for the budget to be altered," Premier S. F. Tolmie said, in announcing the government's decision, which followed weeks of negotiations and conferences here between the cabinet and municipal representatives. "I have conveyed that fact to representatives of the municipalities and for the present session the matter is closed."

### WISH TO END CONSTANT FRICTION.

"It is realized, however, that this is a situation which requires further study and, no doubt, further action. This year we shall confer with the municipalities at length and go into the whole problem from top to bottom with a view to concrete steps at the next session."

While the Premier did not elaborate his proposals further, it was learned that the government's desire is to divorce provincial from municipal revenues and thus end the constant friction which results from the present system.

This presumably would be done by enlarging municipalities' taxation field and eliminating their provincial grants altogether. In other words, the government would cease to collect revenues and hand them back to the municipalities, but it would abandon some of its present collections within municipal territory.

### AGREE LOAD MUST NOT BE PUT ON LAND.

In any case, one principle will guide all these negotiations, the relief of land from further taxation. This principle is admitted by everyone concerned, for it is becoming evident to all that the limit of profitable land taxation has been reached in most places. Beyond that limit, the government and the municipalities agree, land taxation will not produce revenue, but will only result in the confiscation of property.

The government's refusal to alter the budget does not apply to the problem of education costs. The government still has under consideration the proposal that city councils be given additional control over so-called school "trills" and has reached no decision. Any changes that may emerge out of the recent argument on this question can be made by simple amendments to the School and Municipal Acts without affecting the budget in the least.

Intimation of the government's plans toward revision of the basis of taxation was given by Premier Tolmie on Friday to Ald. G. C. Miller and City Solicitor J. B. Williams of Vancouver, who were in Victoria watching the city's interests.

### GOVERNMENT WILL CONSULT DISTRICTS.

This morning, Mr. Williams, on his return from Victoria, reported that Premier Tolmie has intimated that he will be prepared, after the House rises, to hear representations of civic and municipal authorities on the question of taxation. It is stated that if the government eventually decides to continue making grants to municipalities, it should arrange the basis so that municipalities will know definitely from year to year how much to expect from this source.

The government, by refusing to moderate its budget, has in effect refused to grant proposals by the city which would have lightened Vancouver's load this year by about \$250,000. The city asked that it be relieved of paying a share of mothers' pension, which will cost about \$197,000; and that social service charges to municipalities be on a per capita basis, instead of a direct assessment according to the number of persons in a municipality receiving the benefit of a branch of the social service. Increased grants were also sought, but refused.

## FILM QUOTA BILL MAY BE DROPPED

## Theatre Employees Opposed to Plan Because of Alleged Threat to Wages.

VICTORIA, April 2.—New opposition to the government bill to provide a quota for British films to be shown in the province, has come from theatre employees. Through their counsel, A. C. DesBrisay, they are protesting against the measure, on the grounds that it would lead to lower wages and men being thrown out of employment.

There would, they contend, be a decline in the theatre business, due to forcing inferior pictures on the screen, or due to public antagonism to what might be regarded as propaganda.

It is believed in the Legislature that the bill may be dropped, for this year at least.

## SALARIES OF CIVIL SERVICE UP MILLION

## Pattullo Charges This Government Has Radically Increased the Cost.

VICTORIA, April 2.—Nearly one million dollars a year has been added to the total of civil service salaries since the present government took office, T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, stated Friday in the Legislature.

Civil service salaries in the year 1928-29 totalled \$3,893,000, he said, as against \$4,897,000 last year. "And this year," he added, "we find that in the estimates before us the salaries alone total \$4,501,000."

It was protested by Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance, that discussion on this should be deferred until the provincial secretary's estimates.

# Log of the House

*All Fools' Day Is Not Merry in The House—For the Old Story Of Liquor Is Told Again—With New and Gory Details—Like the Hanging of Bottles by the Neck—And There Is Bickering and Strife—Which Even the Captain Can Not Quell.*

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

VICTORIA, April 2.—All Fools' Day turned out something worse in the Legislature on Friday. It wouldn't be quite fair to call it All Knave's Day, but at least it was a running fight, a seven-hour snarl, a nagging, yapping, thoroughly unpleasant sort of day, and it accomplished just about nothing, except the passage of some items of supply which the harrassed Mr. Jones kept forcing grimly ahead until boat time. No wonder Mr. Jones was grim, for our new fiscal year started on Friday, supply will be needed right away, and at this rate it won't be granted for a week at least. At this rate, indeed, we may not prorogue next week, which is a summation too grim even for Mr. Jones to contemplate.

The day started with a brief, passionless argument about the future of British Columbia's oil resources, which produced good speeches from Mr. Hanna and Dr. Winch, who foresaw the creation of a vast oil monopoly in the future, and Dr. Alward, who feared nothing of the sort. The government's new oil policy was passed on division, Mr. Manson indicating the mood which he later elaborated, by remarking kindly that we had a Standard Oil government.

From oil we transferred our attention to liquor, and found it, in the purely parliamentary sense, more familiar, and, perhaps, more interesting stuff. At least it instantly stimulated the whole atmosphere of the House. Before we realized what was happening, we were back half a decade into the feverish liquor debates which used to make the chamber swim with much oratorical beer and more froth.

Mr. Pooley was frankly aggravating when the opposition wanted information about the government's intentions towards the Liquor Board. He would only say that they were honorable. The opposition must be patient. It must wait and see whether the government would reduce the size of the Liquor Board, which was intriguing, since the government, in a written statement, announced at the opening of the House that the board assuredly would be reduced, and so on. But then, it is ever the jolly custom of governments to keep oppositions guessing.

### MR. POOLEY TELLS OF BREAKING.

The present Liquor Board found a stout defender in Mr. Pooley, who, having described its success and its economy, turned with equal enthusiasm to contemplate the previous liquor administration. You could almost hear the clink of glass as he told of the enormous breakages under the old regime, and the word "breakages" took on a strange and sinister light as he repeated it.

You could almost hear the gurgling and drip of liquor as he told how an experienced breaker could hold a bottle over a pail, crack it with a hammer and salvage the contents, while retaining the sealed neck. The neck, said Mr. Pooley, revealing some of the inside secrets of the liquor business was all that the breaker had to retain, to prove that the breakage had been accidental and official, and as for Mr. Pooley, though his experience was very limited, he had never known much liquor to reside in the neck, either human or glass. It was all very interesting and it made an impressionable man quite thirsty.

Mr. Pooley also attacked the old Liquor Board's insurance rates and other operations, but regretted very elaborately that he had to trot out such skeletons; whereas Mr. Pattullo asked that he trot them all out, but Mr. Pooley desisted, lest he be thought to be rubbing it in.

He got plenty in return from Mr. Manson. Mr. Manson was in a bad humor. This is not a prejudiced comment, but his own deliberate statement to the House. Yes, Mr. Manson, according to his own statement, was in a bad humor and in such a humor he is particularly destructive. He was soon exchanging

with Mr. Speaker what appeared to be suppressed desires for violence. Mr. Speaker said Mr. Manson must not ask Mr. Pooley what were the intentions of the government were about anything and, as Mr. Speaker proceeded to elaborate this ruling with meticulous precision, Mr. Manson walked completely around his chair in an unsuccessful effort to hide his impatience. Having made half the circle again, he retorted, with a sarcasm which cut like a buck saw, that it was too bad but, he supposed unavoidable, that the rules of the House, as interpreted by Mr. Speaker, made it impossible to discuss matters of urgent public importance. But as the rules were the rules, Mr. Speaker was Mr. Speaker and everything was as it was and rapidly getting worse, and he was in a bad humor, it just couldn't be helped.

### ALL ESTIMABLE CHAPS.

He went on to make a strong defense of Hugh Davidson's liquor administration against which there had been no complaints, ("Andy Blyth?" and "oh yes?" from Mr. Pooley), and an equally strong attack on the present Liquor Board. He said the board was made up of "estimable chaps," but mere friends of the government, unemployed, who had to be given relief in the form of big jobs, and altogether it was a scandal. You can say such things about people outside the House, but when Mr. Manson turned on Mr. Dick and said he hadn't the courage to vote on the Liquor Board as he really felt, Mr. Speaker rushed to the rescue as rapidly as his authority and his broken foot would permit. The honorable member, said he, could say honorable member had no courage. Mr. Manson said he meant only that Mr. Dick hadn't enough courage for the particular purpose in question, but privately Mr. Dick was a most awfully decent chap, and "a most lovely character." This seemed to satisfy everybody, particularly Messrs. Dick and Manson.

But no sooner had Mr. Dick been satisfied with Mr. Manson's blessing, than Mr. Pooley became highly dissatisfied. This new conflict arose over some obscure cause which Mr. Manson and Mr. Pooley may have understood, but which it is certain no one else did. Mr. Manson's charge was that Mr. Pooley, at some time in the past, had made a wrongful reflection on him on the official records of the House and had not possessed the manhood to apologize when shown the truth. Mr. Speaker again objected that this was too personal. Mr. Manson again explained that he only meant Mr. Pooley hadn't enough manhood for the purpose in view. Mr. Speaker insisted that he withdraw. Mr. Manson would withdraw, but repeat the facts and leave the hon. members to draw their own conclusions; which was difficult for the hon. members, since they had no idea what it was all about.

But Mr. Manson was remarkably generous and neighborly to Mr. Pooley in advising him about a new liquor board. He didn't even object to Mr. Pooley appointing a partisan, a political friend, provided he was a good man. That, said Mr. Manson with brutal realism, was party government, and anyone who talked otherwise was just talking nonsense—a statement profoundly true and real but so unusual in its frankness that the House gasped a little. Really, you know, we don't talk about these things, with the public galleries full and all.

### MR. UPHILL IS DISPASSIONATE.

After Mr. Uphill had spoken dispassionately against beer plebiscites in districts already wet—dispassionately in the extreme since he only used beer for medicinal purposes, Mr. Speaker—we went on with another thorny subject—game costs. Mr. Pooley came to the defense of his game administration, not as a mere statesman, not as a member of the executive council or a Conservative politician, but as a father would come to the defense of his child, or a lover of his beloved.

He had figures galore to show that the increase in game costs lately had been too small for notice and nothing like the huge amount which unscrupulous Liberals had represented. But Mr. Manson promptly came back with a printed copy of the Jones budget to prove somewhat conclusively that Mr. Pooley's figures were all wrong. He read them deliberately and cold-bloodedly through a magnifying glass and Mr. Pooley, looking puzzled, conferred with Mr. Jones, who looked

puzzled, too. Then some explanation of but it was not for one, somewhere had dared.

After Mr. Lough defense of his for administration, we marvelously improved full of a new dinner. We returned than ever. We returning and icy passage tullo and Mr. Twigg ing, the latter ley, other of insolence correct in their a

Then we had a Mr. Pattullo and time flaming on b. Pattullo said the blocking all enquiry said it would permanently merely Pattullo's question

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grounds—to rem achievements of our greatness of our by Fathers of Confede dead, still lived or a noble thought or thunderously appla heard the captain its bickering and and having appla

ously, the House and was still bick night.

## DAY OF THE CANNERY

## Small Units Place, George Tells

VICTORIA, April of the Legislature belief Friday that large canneries in has passed," and cessions to the sm groups

"Not only has t cannery passed," d Walkem, Conserva "but I do not be have the big fish again. We will se units, up and do would urge the m to take under ser the facilitating of smaller co-operativ

L. A. Hanna, I agreed with Col. sions in the matt fishing rights abou smaller operators, also urged that so done about the ur line paid by Britis men in comparison south of the line

## HIGHWAY BEING C

## Government Information On F Over Contin

VICTORIA, April a highway commis lumbia is under of the government "We are gather the provinces of states of the Unio Bruhn, minister of the Legislature F essentially a matt not up to me to c "I am not yet the best thing for have engineers in compare favorably continent and ar best interests of We are, however, the matter."



passed, too. There will have to be some explanation of this phenomenon, but it was not forthcoming. Someone, somewhere had evidently blundered.

After Mr. Lougheed had made a defense of his former public works administration, which showed him marvellously improved as a debater and full of a new fire, we went to dinner. We returned feeling worse than ever. We started with a flaming and icy passage between Mr. Pattullo and Mr. Twigg, the former flaming, the latter icy, each accusing the other of insolence and both being correct in their accusations.

Then we had a passage between Mr. Pattullo and the Premier, this time flaming on both sides, for Mr. Pattullo said the government was blocking all enquiry and the Premier said it would be glad to sit permanently merely to gratify all Mr. Pattullo's questions.

Into the middle of all this squabbling floated dear old Capt. Fitzsimmons with a charming speech on larger issues and mightier aspects. He floated in on trailing clouds of political glory to remind us, at a time like this, mark you, when we were rowing over the work of road engineers and the maintenance of

grounds—to remind us of the achievements of the pioneers, the greatness of our heritage and of the Fathers of Confederation who, though dead, still lived on and on. It was a noble though wasted effort and thunderously applauded. Having thus heard the captain urge it to forget its bickering and save the country, and having applauded it thunderously, the House went on bickering and was still bickering far into the night.

## DAY OF THE BIG CANNERY IS "OVER"

Small Units to Take Its Place, George Walkem Tells House.

VICTORIA, April 2.—Two members of the Legislature stated as their belief Friday that "the day of the large canneries in British Columbia has passed," and urged further concessions to the smaller operators and groups.

"Not only has the day of the big cannery passed," declared Col. G. A. Walkem, Conservative of Vancouver, "but I do not believe we will ever have the big fish runs of the past again. We will see a series of small units, up and down the coast. I would urge the minister of fisheries to take under serious consideration the facilitating of operations for the smaller co-operative groups."

L. A. Hanna, Liberal of Alberni, agreed with Col. Walkem. Concessions in the matter of licenses and fishing rights should be granted the smaller operators, he declared. He also urged that something should be done about the unfair price of gasoline paid by British Columbia fishermen in comparison with what those south of the line pay.

## HIGHWAY BOARD BEING CONSIDERED

Government Getting Information On Plan From All Over Continent: Bruhn.

VICTORIA, April 2.—The matter of a highway commission for British Columbia is under serious consideration of the government.

"We are gathering data from all the provinces of Canada and all the states of the Union," said Hon. R. W. Bruhn, minister of public works, in the Legislature Friday. "But it is essentially a matter of policy. It is not up to me to decide."

"I am not yet satisfied that it is the best thing for this province. We have engineers in our department who compare favorably with any on the continent and are working in the best interests of British Columbia. We are, however, seriously considering the matter."

## ALLOCATION FOR ROADS ANNOUNCED

VICTORIA, April 2.—District estimates for maintenance of roads, bridges, ferries, wharves, etc., for the fiscal year 1932-33 were announced in the Legislature Friday by Hon. R. W. Bruhn, minister of public works.

They are apportioned as follows: Alberni \$35,000, Atlin \$27,000, Burnaby \$12,000, Cariboo \$60,000, Chilliwack \$30,000, Columbia \$34,000, Comox \$44,000, Cowichan-Newcastle \$35,000, Cranbrook \$38,000, Creston \$35,000,

Delta \$28,000, Dewdney \$52,000, Esquimalt \$52,000, Fernie \$32,000, Fort George \$52,000, Grand Forks-Greenwood \$42,000, Islands \$25,000, Kamloops \$45,000, Kaslo-Slocan \$55,000, Lillooet \$50,000, Mackenzie \$32,000, Nanaimo \$60,000, Okanagan North \$40,000, Okanagan South \$40,000, Nelson \$20,000, New Westminster \$20,000, Omineca \$46,000, Peace River \$30,000, Prince Rupert \$20,000, Revelstoke \$34,000, Richmond-Point Grey \$12,000, Rossland-Trail \$18,000, Saanich \$22,000, Salmon Arm \$45,000, Similkameen \$40,000, Skeena \$40,000, Vancouver North \$80,000, Yale \$45,000, Cariboo Highway (\$21,000, less estimated revenue \$20,000) \$1,000; total roads \$1,287,000.

Bridges \$340,000, ferries (\$232,000, less estimated revenue \$32,000) \$200,000, wharves, \$7500, surveys \$20,000, traffic operation, snow removal, etc., \$30,000, contingencies \$99,500; total \$1,956,000.

## DEFENDS BUY OF MACHINERY

It Cut Road Maintenance Costs By Over Half, Says Lougheed.

ALL ON REQUISITION

VICTORIA, April 2.—Large purchases of machinery were absolutely necessary to put British Columbia's highways in shape for modern travel purposes; the machinery bought reduced the cost of road maintenance by more than half and motorists are "saving millions" today through the improved road upkeep.

This, in part, was the defense of Hon. N. S. Lougheed, minister of lands, in refuting the recurrent charge of the opposition that he had spent \$2,000,000 on machinery when minister of public works.

WANTED MORE. "I did not buy anything like \$2,000,000 worth of machinery," he asserted. "There had been \$1,651,000 worth bought by the Liberals in a few years and \$1,690,000 was purchased by us. Everything we bought was on requisition of engineers. And we did not buy nearly all they asked for."

Increase in motor licenses more than paid for the cost of snowplowing and keeping open all the roads of the interior, he added.

Hon. R. W. Bruhn, minister of public works, rose to flatly deny the contention of T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, that he had said that Mr. Lougheed "wrecked" the public works department.

## HANNA DEMANDS HOWE APOLOGIZE

Minister Charges Hanna and Neill Fomented Fishermen's Strike.

VICTORIA, April 2.—When Hon. S. L. Howe, commissioner of fisheries, charged in the Legislature on Friday that A. W. Neill, M.P. for Comox-Alberni, and L. A. Hanna, M.L.A. for Alberni, had fomented a fishermen's strike on the west coast last year, he was met with an indignant denial from Mr. Hanna.

Mr. Howe charged that Mr. Hanna and Mr. Neill had counselled the striking fishermen not to go to work, but to ask for government relief and added "Mr. Neill, instead of being their friend is the biggest enemy of the fishermen in B. C."

He told of the government's success in breaking the strike by friendly intervention.

Mr. Hanna said he had not counselled the fishermen to stop fishing, but, on the contrary, had done everything possible to end the dispute. He declared Mr. Neill had done the same thing and demanded an apology from Mr. Howe, who declined to make it.

He stated that Mr. Neill had told the fishermen to remain on strike and Mr. Hanna, on the same platform, had made no objection. Mr. Hanna said he had never been on a platform with Mr. Neill.

## VICTORIA WILL RUSH THROUGH BUSINESS

Three Sessions Each Day Planned to Wind Up Legislation by Friday.

VICTORIA, April 2.—The Legislature, which had planned to prorogue this week, is hoping now that it will be able to go home next Friday. Both sides are eager to wind up next week and to accomplish this result, will be ready to work early and late, probably with three sessions a day. But even with the usual last-minute rush it will not be easy to conclude the seasonal programme by next week-end, for it is still true that the most controversial business of the session has yet to be introduced—the new taxation and redistribution acts. Besides, the unemployment committee has not completed its enquiry yet and its report, or rather its two reports, majority and minority, are sure to lead to a long debate. Most of the legislation now on the order paper will take little time to dispose of, but the remaining estimates, if they are fought as stubbornly as those already passed, will require several sittings. Other questions yet to be settled are the future of chiropractors and drugless healers, the proposed enlargement of City Council control over schools, and the terms of the government's moratorium on mortgage principal.

## New Petroleum Measure Gets Through Legislature

VICTORIA, April 2.—Government control of any oilfields developed in British Columbia as a means toward helping to pay off the public debt was suggested in the Legislature on Friday by L. A. Hanna, Liberal of Alberni. He urged some regulation of prices, should oil be discovered in the province.

Fishermen were taken as an example of the effect of the wide discrepancy in price of gasoline between Canada and the United States. "How can our fishermen compete fairly with those across the line when they pay 24 cents a gallon as against 5 cents a gallon on the other side?"

On a straight party vote the House endorsed the new Petroleum and Natural Gas Act, which entitles the crown to one-half of all oil lands developed and compels a lessee to have machinery on the ground one year after taking out the claim.

## HON. J. W. JONES IS COMMENDED

Financial Times Praises His Retrenchment Policy and Balanced Budget.

EXAMPLE TO OTHERS

The B. C. Government is keeping its feet on the ground, says the Financial Times of Montreal, in the course of an editorial in which it commends the government's retrenchment policy and the determination of Hon. J. W. Jones to balance the budget. The editorial reads as follows:

It is indeed fortunate for the credit standing of the province and the Dominion that the Government of British Columbia is showing little disposition to adopt the suggestions of the more radical element looking to the confiscation of capital, by the repudiation of outstanding obligations, or a capital levy in order to finance further paternalistic expenditures and experiments. Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance, is taking a very hard-headed view of the financial position and outlook of the province. He is showing a determination to balance the budget—and not by socialistic experiments which would undermine the confidence of investors.

Mr. Jones, who has on previous occasions advocated policies of retrenchment, proposes to balance the budget by the only practical method—by reducing expenditures to the minimum and by increasing taxation when absolutely necessary. To provide against contingencies, his plans indicate a surplus of about \$150,000.

While the reduction in expenditures estimated at \$24,688,000 is only \$3,391,000, it must be remembered that a large portion of these are to take care of interest obligations—or are otherwise uncontrollable. The budget is in keeping with the government's three-year programme of retrenchment to which it has pledged support. The proposals to effect the curtailment of expenditures include: Reductions in civil servants' salaries, ministers' salaries and members' indemnities; revenue income taxes from 1 per cent. on incomes of less than \$1000 up to 10 per cent. on incomes of \$19,000 or more; an increase in gasoline tax to 7 cents; a tax on fuel oil; a tax of 5 per cent. on liquor sales; an increase in the tax on pari-mutuel bets to 7 per cent.; a super-tax on land not in school districts, and an increase in the amusement tax.

It is also proposed to shift the increasingly heavy financial burden for social services from the province to the municipalities. Municipalities are to be required to pay approximately \$868,000 for these services, including mothers' pensions, mental hospitals and sanatoriums. In the past, according to Mr. Jones, British Columbia has treated municipalities more generously in the matter of such grants than any other province in Canada. This has, apparently, led to extravagances on the part of the municipalities, which in drawing on the provincial treasury have evaded responsibility to local taxpayers.

It is evident that in British Columbia, as in the other provinces, there are public men who have the courage to meet the economic problems of these troublous days in a practical and courageous way when they are actually brought face to face with a crisis. If the same common-sense were employed by governing bodies at all times there would be fewer of these crises to contend with.

## What to Do!

AS we look towards Victoria these days, the handwriting appears plainly on the wall that the present session of the Legislature has crystallized the general discontent.

In this emergency of widespread distress consequent upon unemployment and depression of industry and trade, the indictment lies against the government and the Legislature, including the official opposition, that they have done little else between them than to play the old game of party.

Thus the question arrives today, what we are going to do to get better government for the 700,000 people of this province who face a debt of 142 millions and the burden of new taxation. We believe that the only workable and useful way, with the men and means at our command, is, for the time being, and until we get the province "over the hump," to abandon the party system in our Provincial Government.

We say this because there is no sign of reform in the party system of administration. In recent weeks we have witnessed a sort of one-man effort—a gallant attempt it was—of the minister of finance to bring order out of the chaos that pervades everything at Victoria. He was able after a terrific struggle to submit a budget, nominally balanced, for which he is entitled to personal credit. But how far could he reclaim the situation with its swollen overhead and its array of banal conditions created by the party machine? It was a good compromise budget—but essentially lined up to the traditions and the demands of the old party system. This system has got us into much of the trouble from which we suffer today. Why should we perpetuate it? Mr. Jones did his best, but he was powerless to get the figures down to within millions of what in this province we can afford to pay for the business of government.

The reality is that the party politicians have not yet begun to realize that the old racket of machine rule is headed for the discard. While the minister of finance was in, the very posture of explanation of his "paring provincial expenditures to the bone," the Dominion Government, acting as banker for the province in unemployment relief, was declining to accept expenditures for relief camp construction in this province apparently because the job was extravagantly done. And you have the futile "investigation" proceeding in committee, that the politicians may try to reassure the people of British Columbia that the unparalleled volume of road machinery purchased was quite necessary and that the relief camps could get along only with full batteries of adding-machines and typewriters!

What have the people of British Columbia, who will pay wrongful and excessive taxes for years to come—what have they got in return? We do not for a moment blame the minister in charge of this project—we blame the political machine. For a large part of our excessive debt of 142 millions the political machines of this and former administrations—Conservatives and Liberals alike—are responsible. This is why we believe most citizens of British Columbia will agree with us when we say that we have had enough of the machines—we want to throw them both overboard.

It is easy to accuse, easy to declare there should be an end of this or that regime, a bidding goodbye to an outworn and useless system. Quite another thing to devise a practical programme for a new and better administration.

There is no merit in turning the Conservative machine out to let the Liberal machine in.

Likewise, no merit in forcing an immediate election with a probability of stalemate, with ramps and rumps of leaderless men and partyless leaders in bewilderment and confusion.

It is no permanent solution to say that a group of business men should be called to the rescue—you have a regularly constituted Legislature, duly elected, representatives of the people, and there are presently no seats vacant for outsiders.

The reform, we think, must come in the House itself. Their constituents have the power to make these members realize that the political party method of business is in disgrace in British Columbia and that citizens of this province are today demanding—and must have—a government first and foremost in the public interest. The members of this House are personally as loyal to British Columbia and her future heritage as any citizen. But it is party rivalry and machine politics which dictate most public decisions and betray good citizenship.

It is fair to demand something better in this province than we have been getting. The old system won't work any more. We are left with the chance and the opportunity of what, for want of a better name, we should call a national government of British Columbia. It should be something more and something better than a coalition. It should be recruited from the best men available in the existing political organizations. It should not contemplate a cabinet of more than five

or six ministers. It should be created by open agreement, in the sight of the province. It should be accompanied by the definite realization, by means of legislation enacted this year or next, of a smaller and more compact Legislature, certainly no bigger than half its present membership.

Such a government could be created this year, without a general election. Because there must be an election not later than next year, such a government could go to the country, with a known and announced programme of provincial reconstruction on sane lines. And it could be elected.

## Pooley Denies Higher Cost of Game Board

VICTORIA, April 2.—Hon. R. H. Pooley, attorney-general, rose in the Legislature Friday to emphatically deny the opposition charges that game board administration costs had increased over \$150,000 under the present government.

"There is no ground for such an extravagant statement," he declared. "For the fiscal year 1927-28, administration costs were \$220,000 and for the fiscal year just closed \$233,000. I might add that game wardens have lately done excellent work in helping police fight disorder."

A. M. Manson, K. C., Liberal of Omineca, rose with a pamphlet in his hand, said it was the 1931 budget speech, and that the figures therein showed that the administration costs were \$84,231, when the present government took office and \$228,000 the next year.

## Plea

BRITISH COLUMBIAN partisans of the hole.

Expenditure organizations nor the ability to financial success.

We need a stabilization of interest, fear, frightened by the liquid British Columbia aid from must be at a for the next government f

have the confidence would speedily the money machine successive party since have pro-

We require a similar authority will stop the 1919 we were million and a construction, the year ending July bill was well. Alas, these figures. An increase to millions of total have been excessive expansion on ruinous.

These are why we are a party system Columbia. The so long that bury it. For have been heard British Columbia reduced 50 per cent cut down year we have rate of a mill the party go about it! For Conservative a two or three existence; as f would lead the towards economic to be thought the people, but hang on, play game in the sa-

Easy it is to take one's own seriously. We that British Columbia despair. We British Columbia are that today comparative aff to observe that been influenced by a little of sense and a ce would have pl spending a coup want to see Br into the mire. political party solid ground remedies won't slide.

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## HEALTH INSURANCE IN B. C. MUST WAIT

### No Possibility of Adoption at Present Session of House.

VICTORIA, April 2.—There is no possibility of state health insurance being adopted at the present session of the Legislature. Advocates of the system have abandoned hope of early action, but are planning to work out a concrete proposal to be laid before the government during the recess.

They hope that a scheme of insurance will be adopted at the next session. They will concentrate on a modest beginning, by which the government can save money rather than increasing its costs. The proposal that the province launch at this time on a larger programme, costing the treasury several millions a year can not be considered in the government's view.



## Plea for New Deal

BRITISH COLUMBIA requires a non-partisan government to pull her out of the hole.

Expenditures have run wild. Party organizations have neither the courage nor the ability to get this province back to financial sanity.

We need some agency that will furnish a stabilizer to prevent bond issues at panic interest rates. A party government, fearful of criticism, is apt to be frightened by bankers whose only lookout is the liquid position of their own loans. British Columbia will still require generous aid from Canadian banks—but it must be at a price that will not sink us for the next fifty years. A "national" government for British Columbia would have the confidence of every citizen; it would speedily reassert our position in the money markets—something that successive party governments in this province have progressively lost.

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We require a highway commission—or a similar authority outside of politics—that will stop the orgy of spending. Around 1919 we were investing something over a million and a half annually on highway construction, bridges, ferries, etc. In the year ending just twelve months ago our bill was well over ten million dollars. Alas, these figures tell a graphic story. An increase to perhaps four or five millions of total expenditure per year might have been excused, even justified, but an expansion on a scale of seven to one is ruinous.

These are among the broad reasons why we are advising a holiday from the party system of government in British Columbia. The pork-barrel plan has ruled so long that both parties are unable to bury it. For more than a year now we have been hearing demands from all over British Columbia for a legislature reduced 50 per cent. in numbers and a cabinet cut down to four or five. In that year we have been going behind at the rate of a million dollars a month. Ask the party government to do anything about it! For answer we learn that the Conservative administration will railroad two or three safe Liberal seats out of existence; as for a drastic reduction, that would lead the province back to the road towards economy—well, that is simply not to be thought of. They know the will of the people, but they are simply going to hang on, playing the time-worn party game in the same old way.

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Easy it is in these times of stress to take one's own views on public affairs too seriously. We find it important to say that British Columbia's case is not one for despair. We are so much better off in British Columbia than some other people are that today we live in comfort and comparative affluence. But we are bound to observe that conditions here might have been influenced profoundly for the better by a little of the foresight of common sense and a certain good judgment that would have placed the brakes on wild spending a couple of years ago. We don't want to see British Columbia slip further into the mire. We have no confidence in political party direction getting us on solid ground again. Their half-hearted remedies won't even halt the downward slide.

Now is the time for all to unite for the common good, to discard the old system that has betrayed the people of this province and mortgaged our future.

There will be plenty of time for party politics to take charge again when the depression is over. Always, there's the chance that the cure may be permanent.

## Frills and Other Things

THE feud in educational circles between those who are all for the humanities and those who are all for the practical training, is one of long standing. Sometimes one side is ahead and sometimes the other, but neither, since the war began in earnest, has won a complete victory. So education is compelled to occupy a middle ground which, most things being considered, is not an unsatisfactory solution.

Both sides to the controversy admit the necessity of certain basic tools. Both are agreed that the student, to get anywhere at all, must have a good grounding in the three R's. He must be able to read without difficulty and write decent English, and he must have some acquaintance with elementary mathematics. Both sides admit the desirability of cultural training, but there is not much agreement as to how this training shall be obtained. The humanists think it can only come from a drilling in mathematics or languages or philosophy. Those on the other side believe it can come equally well from a discipline of the eye and hand in the handicrafts and arts, from a discipline of the eye, ear and hand in music and from a discipline of the various faculties employed in commercial work.

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The humanists, with an assurance and an arrogance which accords with the lofty attitude they affect, call all the things they do not approve of educational frills, and assume that in calling names, they have condemned. The people on the other side are less truculent and less abusive. They have a respect for the humanities and concede that these have their place, that they pave the way to the professions, that they open the gates to leadership, that they light the path to the better employment of leisure. So far, they have refrained from calling names.

In British Columbia, of late, we have had two examples of the fight between the humanities and the practical in education. At the University, the contest has been between arts and agriculture, and, at the moment, the battle appears to be a drawn one. In the field of elementary and secondary education, we have the curious spectacle of the very practical-minded, hard-boiled aldermen of Vancouver taking up the cudgels at Victoria against such impractical, frilly vanities as technical training, commercial education, vocational training and household science, and in favor of solid and substantial and practical subjects like Latin and French and geometry. Not that the aldermen know what they are doing, or care. They have found in the so-called educational frills what they conceive to be a useful stick to beat the recalcitrant School Board with, and they are using it.

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If the aldermen would pause to think what they are about, they would see that they are making themselves ridiculous. Of what value can a smattering of French be to a boy who will leave school at 16 to become a plumber? How long will a memory of his irregular verbs remain with him? Wouldn't he have been more interested in spending the time in workshop practice, and wouldn't the training there be of vastly more value to him? Yet, according to our aldermanic view of education, the workshop is a frill and the French is the thing that should be taught.

Take another example, the boy who takes Latin for his matriculation examination and then goes into an office. Of what value will the Latin be? He will forget it in a year. If he had spent his time at typing and accountancy, he would have his training and a basis for his commercial work as well. But the Latin is according to Hoyle and the commercial training is a frill.

A girl goes through the matriculation classes and plods her weary way through algebra and geometry. Three or four years at home or in a shop and she gets married. The algebra will help her count the baby's toes, of course, and the geometry will show her how to cut a pie into quarters or sixes. But if she had got a bit of training in the making of pies it might have been of more practical value, and the time spent at geometry might have been better spent learning how to make the baby's dress. But in our scheme of things, algebra and geometry are essential for the young materfamilias, while cooking and dressmaking are to be counted frills.

## B. C. Relief For 42,000 Single Men

Four Times More Than  
Saskatchewan and  
Alberta Combined.

VICTORIA, April 4.—The Provincial Government has not received one dollar from the Federal Government on account of its own expenditures on unemployment works, or direct relief, E. D. Johnson, deputy minister of finance, informed the unemployment committee of the Legislature today.

The Federal Government, he testified, has not even paid its own share of relief expenditures, although the agreement between the two governments provides that Ottawa should finance the entire cost involved. Mr. Johnson's figures showed that the Dominion's share of unemployment costs so far was \$1,965,000, but federal payments to the province on this account were \$223,000 short of the total.

VICTORIA, April 4.—British Columbia is taking care of four times as many unemployed single men as the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta together. So Hon. R. W. Bruhn, minister of public works, told the unemployment committee of the Legislature today. He said that the transient and single-man problem had become "unbearable" under pressure from Vancouver police, the press and municipal authorities and he reiterated his belief that placing of the men in relief camps was the only way they could handle the situation.

For further relief the minister urged before the committee the following steps:

### WOULD BAR TRANSIENTS.

Federal action to prevent transients coming into British Columbia. To back up the need for this restriction he pointed out that while Alberta and Saskatchewan cared for 5000 single unemployed each, British Columbia takes care of over 30,000 single men and nearly 15,000 transients, a total of 42,000 all told.

He advised placing of youths under 20 years of age in separate camps. He considered that many of these younger unemployed were placed in work camps to their disadvantage and under conditions which were unfavorable. He suggested that unemployed be sent out to wash for placer gold in the rivers of the province under supervision of competent mining engineers. He cited Australia as an example of what had been done in this respect.

Continuation of the policy of the two governments taking care of all single men and the municipalities handling the married men was advocated.

"B. C. is the only province taking care of single men on this basis, but certainly our municipalities can not find work for them," he said.

Any back-to-the-land movement should be carried out at first only to a limited extent and not rushed at, he contended. "The scheme is all right but we must remember that the money for it must be found."

### EXTENSION OF P. G. E. WOULD GIVE RELIEF.

A market for B.C. lumber was one of the most vitally-important needs for a solution of the unemployment problem, he declared. And he thought that an extension of the P. G. E. would help greatly, although he realized that the cost would be very heavy.

### Victoria House May Continue For Week

VICTORIA, April 4.—A distinct possibility that the Legislature may not be able to adjourn this week emerged today when it was learned that the government is determined that the unemployment investigation now under way shall be completed and not allowed to collapse for lack of time.

## Log of the House

*We Start the Last Lap with High Resolutions—And Come to Life As We Enter the Dying Hours—For Our Tempers Are Frayed—And Our Hopes of Finishing This Week Are Sadly Dampened.*

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

VICTORIA, April 5.—The House plunged Monday into what, with our usual exqu沿海 logic, we call the dying hours of the session when everything comes suddenly to life. And while both sides were determined to make the dissolution as rapid and as merciful as might be, both reserved the right to do things which may yet keep us here over another week-end. Our own mind is not yet and ere it comes you may see many curious sights.

This final week of the session, or at least we hope it is the final week, started with a sharp little wrangle which showed clearly how the many previous weeks have frayed our nerves and tired out our patience. As the day opened the Premier rose to make a portentous ministerial explanation. He said the government hoped to get through this week. It would do everything possible to send the members home before another week-end, without, however, skimping or shirking any business; which remark was particularly impressive in view of the fact that the chief business of the session has yet to be introduced. But, said the Premier, while reasonable speed was desirable, the government was absolutely determined to complete the unemployment investigation and allow a full discussion of it. Therefore, said the Premier, the less unnecessary oratory the better.

This was more than Mr. Pattullo could bear. He rose, and his color also rose with annoyance, to remark that the unnecessary oratory of the session had not come from his side. The real reason for delay in the session, as everybody knew, was that the government had come to the House totally unprepared and had not brought down its business on time. So late was the government's business, indeed, that the House had at only an hour a day for some weeks for lack of legislation to go on with. Anyway, if the government would make its ways and get down to real business of the session at last, the opposition would move as fast as possible but, added Mr. Pattullo, with an unmistakable rasp in his voice and a baleful eye which looked squarely at the Premier, the opposition would criticize as it saw fit until the bitter end.

### MR. TWIGG OBJECTS.

Mr. Pattullo got into a separate row with Mr. Twigg, when he scorned the Premier's talk of a full unemployment enquiry. Mr. Twigg, as chairman of the unemployment committee, begged with great courtesy to deny Mr. Pattullo's allegation that the enquiry was not free and full, that all the desired witnesses had not been called. Mr. Twigg went so far as to use the absolutely unparliamentary word "untrue," to which Mr. Pattullo retorted that the enquiry was a mere travesty, designed simply to give the government a certificate of character. The Premier, still smiling, said the government needed no such certificate, and Mr. Pooley said the House had been adjourned early in the first weeks of the session so that the committee could work.

This having been settled to no one's satisfaction, and our hopes of finishing this week having been decidedly dampened, we went on with the job of finishing. There was nothing in the subsequent proceedings to inspire new confidence in the breast of Mr. Pooley. When he regarded some of Mr. Pooley's new legislation, which doubles and quadruples fees for registering various conditional sales, Mr. Pattullo finally confessed that he was without hope in this ministry. He finally suggested that the government could improve its financial position and add some real talent to its fiscal administration by calling in that noted financier, Andrew H. Brown of the Fresh Air Taxicab Company, like whom, Mr. Pattullo said he was absolutely "regretted." But as Mr. Pooley felt that the government already received enough fresh air from the opposition, we decided not to bother Mr. Brown just now.

### WHEN MINISTERS DISAGREE.

The bill to abolish grand juries brought to the surface an interesting conflict in the processes of eminent minds. Mr. Pooley sponsored this move and made an able argument to support it. Mr. Matland, as he must do or resign, loyally supported Mr. Pooley's bill but if he liked it he disguised his feelings with remarkable success. He supposed the bill was inevitable, since Ottawa was abolishing grand juries, but he proceeded to make an excellent argument for keeping them. Indeed, he advanced a much better argument against Mr. Pooley than the opposition did, garnished it with some interesting legal reminiscences and finally confessed that he would shed a tear as he watched another of the grand old institutions of British jurisprudence disappear. He even feared lawyers' gowns would go next and after that what was left? Mr. Matland having expressed his views so well, Mr. Pattullo largely reiterated them.

All this was very pleasant and non-political, but Mr. Jones brought us up with an unpleasant round turn when he asked for the passage of a loan bill for \$7,500,000 of which the appalling total of \$7,000,000 is for current deficits—seven millions added to our dead weight of debt for twenty or thirty years; probably twenty millions to pay back, interest included, with little to show for it but actual running expenses now forgotten: seven millions more debt to bring our total within speaking distance of a hundred and fifty millions and no member could escape this silent indictment of Mr. Jones' loan bill.

Mr. Pattullo blamed it all on the government and more especially on the government's failure to take his advice and go slow in its early stages. Instead it had made a plunge and landed us into this mess, whereas if it had taken his advice Mr. Pattullo confessed with a remarkable frankness that it probably could not have been beatable at the next election. Not having taken his advice, of course, it was already beaten.

### MR. JONES GETS MAD.

In the evening we made progress crabwise and seemed to get further from proration with every passing hour. It took Mr. Jones an hour and a half to get one small item of supply passed and it required, in addition, almost another complete budget speech. Evidently Mr. Jones had come prepared for trouble of this sort. To Mr. Pattullo's complaint about the government's extravagance Mr. Jones replied with a tornado of statistics to prove that it was really all Mr. Pattullo's fault. He quoted all Mr. Pattullo's figures to show that Mr. Pattullo's government had really spent the money or committed its successor to spending it, which was very enlightening but did not, alas, alter the fact that it was spent but not yet paid for.

Mr. Jones became once more the fighting Mr. Jones of opposition days as he lit into Mr. Pattullo as he used to do then. He was tired of the "blather and bunk" of his friend Mr. Pattullo, and it appeared that Mr. Pattullo was almost as tired of Mr. Jones. Mr. Loutet expressed the outraged feelings of the downtrodden, inarticulate back benches when he said everybody was tired of all these ancient, worn-out arguments. Mr. Pearson, for his part, was tired of all this fruitless searching for the truth amid all this contradiction. Dr. Sutherland, breaking his customary silence with sudden mighty outburst of indignation, said the government was misrepresenting the truth even about the public debt. Mr. Pooley, with an outburst still mightier, said the opposition was misrepresenting the truth about everything. Instead of being British and playing the game in our time of need. And we were still trying to get at the facts, we were still trying to find out whether the civil service costs a million dollars more a year now than under the old government, we were still toiling laboriously over supply, still wondering if we could possibly finish this week when we quit and went home wretchedly to bed.

### British Film Quota Bill Passes Second Reading

VICTORIA, April 5.—The bill which provides for a quota of British films to be shown in the province passed second reading in the Legislature Monday.

## CITY MAY GET ONE MORE SEAT

Redistribution in B. C. to  
Leave Legislature Same  
Size as Now.

### UNITE RIDINGS

VICTORIA, April 5.—While the government's new redistribution bill has yet to be submitted to the Conservative caucus for approval, its present form provides for a House of forty-seven or forty-eight members, as at present.

These important changes, subject to the ratification of the caucus, are proposed:

1. Division of Vancouver generally along federal electoral lines, with new constituencies of Vancouver Centre, Burrard, Point Grey and Burnaby and South Vancouver.

Vancouver Centre would have two members, Burrard two, Point Grey three and the combined ridings of Burnaby and South Vancouver, three. This would be an increase of one member for the Vancouver area, but this plan may be altered slightly by the caucus.

2. Union of Columbia and Revelstoke, with the southern portion of Columbia thrown into Granbrook.

3. Union of Creston and Nelson.

4. A new constituency of Peace River.

5. No change in the northern constituencies.

6. Alteration in the boundaries of Lillooet to remove its southern end, including the Squamish area, which would be placed in Mackenzie.

7. Union of Alberni and Nanaimo.

These are the broad lines of the bill, which a special caucus committee has been working on for some weeks and in general this plan probably will be retained in the final bill. A keen fight in the caucus and in the House is expected over the details of electoral ridings and the proposed abolition of some seats. The final electoral map which will emerge out of these discussions thus can not be foreseen definitely yet.

## OFFERED PLANTS TO GOVERNMENT

Contractors Willing to Use  
Equipment for Relief  
Work.

VICTORIA, April 5.—At the unemployment relief investigation this morning Mr. J. P. Hodgson, representing Vancouver contractors, told of an offer made by that organization last fall to place its services and equipment at the government's disposal for relief work.

It was proposed that the government hire the equipment at its own rate and pay any wages it chose. The government, Mr. Hodgson said, had fixed a rental rate satisfactory to the contractors. The plan also contemplated a small fee, perhaps one or two per cent., to cover the contractors' expenses in supervising work. The contractors' expert workers would act as key men in handling the unemployed. The contractors' desire was only to hold their organization together not to make any profit.

The whole project was dropped, however, witness said, but he was not clear as to the government's communication rejecting it.

The committee spent considerable time debating the qualifications of Mr. M. H. McGeough, B. C. representative of the Dominion unemployment director. Mr. McGeough's services with the Province of British Columbia and the Canadian Pacific Railway came under review.

## Trust Fight

TORIES  
\$110,000

Jones Denies  
That They  
\$40,000,000

"CREDIT A"

VICTORIA, April 5.—The Provincial Government's new redistribution bill has yet to be submitted to the Conservative caucus for approval, its present form provides for a House of forty-seven or forty-eight members, as at present.

This figure was late Monday night Jones, minister of finance, minister of course of a strong opposition tactics misled the people the financial situation specifically to the position that the spent \$150,000,000 and increased the by \$1,000,000.

Mr. Jones refused responsibility of the money expenditure seven months of the 29. This money has marked and comm administration by August, he declared.

"The leader of" asserted, "has been people of this province insolvent and go ruin. Does anyone has no effect on the markets? It certainly has been doing the government and. And why? So the professional political seat on this side."

### BIG DEFICIT IN

In the year 1920 nearly so serious a Liberal government over four and a half Col. Nelson Spence Vancouver.

Hon. R. L. Matlout portfolio, was tendency to "throw for political purpose."

In the matter of Mr. Jones declared government was on the payroll that went out of office over new services the civil service under a different counts of the government economies the 1928 basis, he

"Instead of help time of crisis, this indulging on bluster," he stated for extravagance, almost every red mates. Every L complained about constituency's allotment.

T. D. Pattullo, insisted that any examining the public see for himself the civil service had \$1,000,000 under t



# Trustees' Delegation to Fight Proposed Amendment

**TORIES SPENT \$110,000,000**

**Jones Denies Liberal Claim That They Expended \$40,000,000 More.**

## "CREDIT AFFECTED"

VICTORIA, April 5.—For the three fiscal years ending March 31, 1932, the Provincial Government has spent approximately \$110,000,000.

This figure was given to the Legislature Monday night by Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance, in the course of a strong condemnation of opposition tactics in attempting to mislead the people of the province on the financial situation. He referred specifically to the claims of the opposition that the government had spent \$150,000,000 since taking office and increased the civil service payroll by \$1,000,000.

Mr. Jones refused to accept responsibility of the government for the money expended during the last seven months of the fiscal year 1931-29. This money had already been earmarked and committed by the Liberal administration before the change in August, he declared.

"The leader of the opposition," he asserted, "has been busy telling the people of this province that we are insolvent and going headlong into ruin. Does anyone think that this has no effect on the eastern financial markets? It certainly has. Yet he has been doing his best to damn the government and damn the country. And why? So that that particular professional politician might get a seat on this side of the House."

## BIG DEFICIT IN 1920-21.

In the year 1920-21, which was not nearly so serious as the past year, the Liberal government had a deficit of over four and a half millions, declared Col. Nelson Spencer, Conservative of Vancouver.

Hon. R. L. Maitland, minister without portfolio, warned against the tendency to "throw figures around" for political purposes.

In the matter of the civil service, Mr. Jones declared that the present government was actually paying less on the payroll than when the Liberals went out of office. They had taken over new services and transferred to the civil service many who had been under a different heading in the accounts of the government, but with new economies they are now back to the 1928 basis, he added.

"Instead of helping the state in this time of crisis, the opposition leader is indulging only in bluff and bluster," he stated. "They blame us for extravagance, and protest about almost every reduction in the estimates. Every Liberal member has complained about the cut in his constituency's allotment for the year."

T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, insisted that any intelligent person examining the public accounts could see for himself that the cost of the civil service had risen by about \$1,000,000 under the present ministry.

## Board Apprehensive of Move to Hand Over Authority to Councils.

**Neelands Visits Capital to Watch Situation — Fear Private Bill.**

**ALARMED** that in dying minutes of the Legislature an amendment to Public Schools Act may be passed robbing school boards of jurisdiction over educational matters and handing over authority to municipal councils, Vancouver School Board sent a delegation to Victoria Monday night.

Mr. R. H. Neelands, chairman, will interview Vancouver members of the House today and will return tonight. He has authority to request Trustees Mrs. Paul Smith and Mrs. Edward Mahon to go over tonight to continue the fight, if necessary.

According to rumors reaching Vancouver trustees, a private member will introduce an amendment to the act giving city councils of Vancouver and Victoria authority to continue or discontinue grants for educational courses such as technical, manual training, home economics and commercial classes—courses sometimes referred to by critics as "educational frills."

## AFFECTS TWO CITIES.

Victoria members of the Legislature, the board learns, are strongly in favor of giving Victoria and Vancouver city councils control of moneys necessary for certain courses, and as the amendment would affect only these two cities, it is thought there is grave possibility of other members of the House following the lead of the city members in the belief that it will not affect them.

"The amendment is only the thin edge of the wedge and, if passed, will mean that educational control will pass out of the hands of trustees into those of members of municipal councils throughout the province," was how more than one member of the board expressed the situation at a special meeting Monday night.

Vancouver trustees are not quite sure of the attitude of aldermen who, they say, have been lobbying at Victoria, and a watchful eye will be kept on them. They will also be subjected to all the persuasion that can be exerted to line them up in opposition to the proposed amendment.

## MEMBERS ADVISED.

In addition to sending the delegation, the board has written all members of the Legislature explaining their views. They believe that members of the Legislature generally are not cognizant of what the amendment really means—"passing over control of educational expenditures to municipal councils."

Vancouver School Board has sent two or three delegations this season to Victoria on this issue.

## Dick and Kirk Vote With Liberals Against Pari-Mutuel Bill

VICTORIA, April 5.—Two Conservatives stood with Liberals in a division vote of the Legislature Monday as opposed to the bill which provides that municipalities shall receive a maximum of \$170,000 from the pari-mutuel tax.

The two were William Dick and T. H. Kirk, Conservatives of Vancouver. The vote was on whether the committee report, recommending adoption of the bill without amendment, should be adopted. At present the municipalities receive the entire proceeds from the pari-mutuel tax. Under the terms of the budget the tax is increased and the maximum amount granted to the municipalities with the province taking the balance.

## PASSING OF GRAND JURIES REGRETTED

**Dignity Is Sacrificed For Dollars and Cents.**

VICTORIA, April 5.—Elimination of the centuries-old grand jury system in British Columbia, as provided for in a bill given second reading in the Legislature Monday, was criticized by two members of the House as a tendency to "sacrifice the dignity of institution for consideration of dollars and cents."

In abolishing the grand jury, British Columbia follows in the footsteps of Manitoba and Nova Scotia, Hon. R. H. Fooley, attorney-general, declared. He claimed that the system had outlived its usefulness; that it was expensive and that most of the judges of the province were in favor of its elimination.

Legislation providing for any change in criminal procedure is purely a federal matter, he said. It is now before the House at Ottawa. "In the old days," he continued, "it was a bulwark between the people and a corrupt system and it kept a check on public institutions."

It hardly seemed right today, he said, that a jury of men sitting behind closed doors could reverse the decision of a magistrate without having one-half the opportunity to test the case that the magistrate had. The new measure will eliminate the annual inspection of public institutions of the province by a grand jury and change the customary jury procedure of the assizes courts.

T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, declared that the attorney-general should have consulted the House before recommending to the Federal Government that the grand jury be abolished in the province.

"I hope our courts are not coming to the same state as those of the United States, which have no dignity whatever," said Hon. R. L. Maitland, minister without portfolio.

"In this province we have a most horribly inefficient set of justices of the peace who mean well but do not know law. In these instances a grand jury always protected a man from faulty judgments."

## "No Secrets," Says Tolmie, Except With P. G. E.

VICTORIA, April 5.—Asked if the B. C. Liquor Control Board maintained an office in the Pacific Building in Vancouver, Attorney-General R. H. Fooley told T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, in the Legislature Monday that he had no information on the subject.

Mr. Pattullo charged the government with consistently withholding information and doing business in secret. The public was entitled to know, he said, about the Liquor Board and the P. G. E.

"We are doing nothing in secret," asserted Premier S. F. Tolmie. "But I might remind the opposition leader of a parallel case. In Ottawa the government regards the inner workings of the C. N. R. as private information, and we take the same attitude towards the Pacific Great Eastern Railway."

## Amusements For Charitable Purposes Exempt From Tax

VICTORIA, April 5. — Dances and community entertainments conducted for charitable or patriotic purposes will be exempted from amusement tax. This was made clear by Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance, in the Legislature Monday, when the new Amusement Tax Act passed committee stage. Such entertainments, however, as are held for the purpose of helping out amateur sports will not escape the levy, he added. This brought a strong plea from Mayor A. W. Gray, Liberal of New Westminster, that for the sake of fostering sports among young people such entertainments should be exempt from the tax. Religious and fraternal organization entertainments will be exempt under the charitable stipulation.

## BUDGET UNFAIR, SAYS VANCOUVER

**City Joins With Victoria In Last Drive to Obtain Equitable Treatment.**

VICTORIA, April 5.—Vancouver and Victoria city authorities launched a last desperate drive here today against the municipal features of the Jones budget, under which municipalities must take over a substantial burden of social costs.

At a conference with members of the two largest cities, the municipal representatives will insist that the budget proposals will produce grave financial consequences in many municipalities.

In brief, the city delegates advanced three proposals:

1. That the government abandon entirely its plan to shift part of the cost of social services to the municipalities.

2. If the government insists on proceeding with its programme, then it should charge each municipality for actual service rendered. That is to say, a municipality should be charged its share of mothers' pensions according to the number of actual pensioners within the municipality and not on the basis of the entire municipal population.

3. That grants to municipalities should be distributed according to their origin. Thus a municipality would receive its share of liquor profits according to the amount of liquor it purchased, instead of according to its school population, as at present. Under this plan, of course, Vancouver would receive the lion's share of liquor profits and motor license revenues and some small municipalities would receive very little. This plan, while favored by the two largest cities, is opposed by the smaller municipalities.

"The transference of the cost of social services is wrong in principle and will lead ultimately to serious financial conditions in many municipalities," said a statement issued on behalf of the Vancouver-Victoria delegation by J. B. Williams, Vancouver solicitor. The delegation, which will ask the city members to support it in the House by their vote, consisted of Aldermen Lemke and McRae, J. B. Williams, city solicitor of Vancouver, with Mayor Jennings and Aldermen Brown and Worthington of Victoria.

## 'FRILL' LEGISLATION REPORTED DROPPED

VICTORIA, April 5.—B. C. school board leaders believed today that the move to put so-called "educational frills" under municipal council control had collapsed.

R. H. Neelands, chairman of the Vancouver School Board, said he had been informed that members who were sponsoring this programme had decided to drop it for a year.

This was the information received also by Vancouver and Victoria city council representatives who are here on other business. It was generally expected, therefore, that the present municipal structure would be left unimpaired, but would be examined during the coming recess, along with the entire provincial and municipal taxation field.



## NO LEGISLATION ON P.G.E. SALE COMING

Premier Tolmie Says 'Nothing of This Nature Will Be Introduced.'

VICTORIA, April 5.—The government did not think it worth while today to deny the latest stories of an immediate Pacific Great Eastern Railway sale, further than to announce definitely that no legislation on the subject would be introduced at the present session of the House.

"Nothing of this nature will be introduced," Premier Tolmie said. It was learned that P. G. E. sale negotiations which have been under way for months, as already stated in The Province, are still far from consummation, but have not been abandoned.

## FRUIT CAUSES ROW IN HOUSE

Party Feeling Runs High at \$1000 Bonus Voted to Harry Hastings.

"PIECE OF AUDACITY"

VICTORIA, April 6.—When wholesale fruit merchants of Vancouver protested to the government against the payment of \$1000 to Harry Hastings of Victoria for encouraging fruit importations from Jamaica, they brought down on themselves the bitter condemnation of cabinet ministers.

A fierce debate raged around this issue in the Legislature Tuesday night after G. S. Pearson of Nanaimo had read a letter from the wholesalers. These interests were denounced by Hon. R. L. Maitland as a "cold-blooded aggression" with no interest in anything but the "almighty dollar," and by Hon. W. A. McKenzie as "90 per cent. American" with no thought for B. C. fruit producers.

The letter from the Vancouver Wholesale Fruit and Produce Company, backed by fifteen leading wholesalers, protested against the payment of \$1000 to Mr. Hastings as a piece of "audacity," since fruit interests for several years had been importing Jamaica fruit. The government's action was called detrimental to the established operators for the benefit of "an individual who not only pays little if any taxes, but has practically no investment in his business and goes directly to the retail trade for his wares."

"FOR SERVICE TO PARTY."

At once opposition asserted, through Dr. W. H. Sutherland of Revelstoke, that Mr. Hastings had been paid, not for his services in opening up trade, but for his political activities for the Conservative party, and particularly for his many letters on political matters to the Conservative Victoria Colonist—a suggestion denounced by J. H. Beatty of Victoria. Jack Loutet of North Vancouver said that Mr. Hastings had been the first man to put Jamaica fruit on the market in a big way, as the wholesalers imported almost exclusively from California and Florida.

Mr. Maitland accused "Wholesale Row" of taking no interest in B. C. fruit producers, nor in Empire trade. It was concerned, he said, only with making money for itself.

Mr. McKenzie said Wholesale Row objected to any competition even from a British possession. It was 90 per cent. American anyway, he asserted.

## Log of the House

*We Spend Such a Night as We Have Not Known in Years—But of Course No One Will Understand It—Nor Our Mighty Jests—Nor Mr. Pattullo's Swedish Bath—Nor Mr. Atkinson's Oranges—Nor the Utter Collapse of Mr. McKenzie.*

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

VICTORIA, April 6.—The House became much too human on Tuesday for its own good. It became so human, indeed, that, against all your better judgment, you could not have helped loving it. It glowed with such humanity and good feeling that we hardly knew it for the cranky, snarling House of Monday.

In this humor it launched into such a weird and wonderful debate, such an incredible and absolutely impossible debate, such an outrageous, delicious and altogether unique mixture of fruit in the Okanagan. Mr. Pattullo's Swedish baths in Sweden, the salvation of the British Empire and big oranges from Jamaica, that we enjoyed the maddest, merriest night in years. And finally we reached a finale, a crescendo which only a master showman could have conceived, when Mr. McKenzie, our beloved minister of mines, after denouncing the opposition with a torrent of limpid indignation, smashed his chair and sprawled headlong on the floor in an excess of pure patriotism.

But don't, oh righteous elector, don't hold all this merriment too much against us. Rejoice rather that your representatives here are still men with human instincts left in them, sound-hearted men who, even at a time like this, can relax from the strain of saving the country to spend such an amazing, such a gorgeous night as this.

Of course, it all sounds very flat in print. Of course, one can not recreate for you the strange, mad-hatter atmosphere which prevailed all evening, the utter bewilderment of poor Mr. Hayward, the chairman, as the House got quite out of hand, the fierce joy of Mr. Pattullo, the mischievous delight of Mr. Jones, the glowing indulgence of Mr. Howe, the utter isolation, benumbed detachment of Mr. Atkinson, and the high morality of young Mr. Maitland.

One can not recreate it nor explain it. It seemed like a spontaneous outburst, a strange tropical growth which sprang up suddenly out of the barren soil of this too-long session, and quickly "encompassed" the whole House; as if, for one evening, everybody was sick of being a grown-up legislator and wanted to become for a little while a small boy. And small boys were while the galleries rocked and the ushers gasped and the back-benchers, wondering what had got into their leaders, slumped in their seats and reflected that, at this rate, we wouldn't be home for another week. But who cared? Not the front benches. They were out to make a night of it.

WHAT IT WASN'T ABOUT.

You will wonder what all this was about. I can not tell you exactly because no one has been able to tell me. No one really knows and no one really cares, and probably it would be easier to tell you what it wasn't all about. Anyway, it started over the payment of \$1000 to a Victoria gentleman named Hastings for his work in encouraging the importation of fruit from Jamaica—a small, prosaic matter, you will say; yes, a matter which, under ordinary conditions, would pass with a few nasty remarks but which, in this humor, the House seized upon as children just out of school.

Before we realized what had happened, Mr. Pattullo had magnified the thousand dollars into a vast financial issue, for it was of such thousands here and there that our deficits were made up. But Mr. Maitland went him one better. The thousand dollars turned out to be not a mere matter of filthy lucre, not a low dispute over dollars and cents. Somehow, I am not quite sure how, but Mr. Maitland showed that it involved the future of the British Empire. One gathered from Mr. Maitland's thundering periods that the fate of the British peoples rested on a crate of oranges from Jamaica.

Then, on this same fruity basis, we threatened over the last Revelstoke by-election and we had Mr. Maitland accusing the present member for Revelstoke, Dr. Sutherland, of not talking enough in the House, and Dr. Sutherland accusing Mr. Maitland of talking far too much, working himself up somehow by a mysterious internal process and pumping out oratory in a fashion which defied even Dr. Sutherland's medical knowledge.

In vain Chairman Hayward said he wasn't interested in the Statute of Westminster or by-elections in Revelstoke. He was interested in oranges from Jamaica. In vain Mr. Pattullo called for order. The House rocked and roared to rock and roar again over jokes too numerous and too obscure to be related here.

MR. MCKENZIE BRINGS UP REAR.

Then, bringing up the rear as he always does in these major engagements, came Mr. McKenzie. He had had scrapbook with him and from its ample pages he drew forth memories that made us fairly burst our sides. Most beautiful of all he drew forth memories of Mr. Pattullo's famous trip to Europe (cost \$4000, Mr. Speaker), which had nothing to do with oranges from Jamaica but was beautiful nevertheless. Mr. Pattullo, in an ineffectual attempt to point out that it was completely out of order stood glaring and silent at a House in convulsions and then smiled and decided to let Mr. McKenzie go on and answer him some other day.

Mr. McKenzie went on. He said Mr. Pattullo had gone to Europe to investigate a new system of making fertilizer from the air. But on his return his only worthwhile report to his cabinet had been this gem: "Paris is still the gayest city in the world." And as Mr. McKenzie pictured, in Gargantuan style, his friend Mr. Pattullo striding down the streets of Paris, the House laughed until tears rolled down the cheeks of Mr. Howe.

Mr. Pearson said it was all disgusting—but nobody cared. Everybody was happy. Mr. Pattullo was happiest of all. He said his trip to Europe had been well worth the price, it had brought back invaluable information which he would outline at a more fitting time, and among other things, said Mr. Pattullo, it had enabled him to take a real Swedish bath in Sweden, he could say that he had protested solemnly that the honorable gentleman was out of order in discussing such delicate matters. Well, at least, if Mr. Pattullo couldn't say that he had taken a Swedish bath in Sweden, he could say that he had taken the P. G. E. up with Winston Churchill, with results which did not leave us breathless.

By this time the oranges of Jamaica had been forgotten. We had shot off long before on Okanagan cantaloupes, American control of British Columbia business, Empire trade and finally the need of using British Columbia coal. It was in the middle of an impassioned address on British Columbia coal, an able and excellent address quite out of order and having nothing to do with the subject under discussion—it was in the midst of this noble effort that Mr. McKenzie sat down, snapped the swivel on his chair and landed with ministerial grace upon the blue carpet; and it was then that Mr. Pattullo ended our two hours of unalloyed delight (which you will never understand) by proclaiming, as Mr. McKenzie rolled upon the blue carpet, that the government, in truth, had now collapsed and only waited to be carried out. And Mr. Atkinson, who had innocently provoked all this with his departmental estimates, looked straight ahead, neither to the right nor to the left, and spoke no word.

## Anyox Govt. Agency Abolition Protested

VICTORIA, April 6.—H. F. Kergin, Liberal Member of Assembly, protested in the Legislature Monday against the abolition of the Anyox government agency. He said he deprecated the present arrangement, under which men who were under obligation to the company controlling the town acted as magistrate and coroner. Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance, promised to consider the matter.

## ANGER FLARES AS PROBE ENDS

Hot Exchanges Feature  
Final Session of Unemployment Enquiry.

Sutherland Declares McGeough Suffered Injustice During Investigation.

VICTORIA, April 6.—The Legislature's committee on unemployment wound up its long enquiry today in a final outburst of spleen between government and opposition members. This, however, was only preliminary to a longer debate in the House.

As the committee adjourned to let Chairman H. D. Twigg prepare its report, T. D. Pattullo formally registered his view that the investigation had not fulfilled the committee's instructions from the House, the necessary evidence had not been produced, he asserted. All government engineers and warehouse agents should have been called so that the committee could find out what became of all the stocks purchased by the government.

STATEMENT "WILD."

"In view of the loose way all this was handled," he said, "I would not be surprised if the government lost hundreds of thousands of dollars."

Mr. Twigg insisted that Mr. Pattullo must not make political speeches and "wild statements."

"Why, you're suggesting that everybody connected with this matter was a robber and a thief," Mr. Twigg asserted.

Mr. Pattullo retorted that when the committee had called a witness whose evidence the government did not like, immediately an attempt had been made to discredit him.

REFUSED VOUCHERS.

G. S. Pearson of Nanaimo declared that he had been refused unemployment camp vouchers in direct violation of the House's instructions and only the least important phases of unemployment had been considered.

Mr. Twigg replied that Mr. Pearson had not made a single suggestion for solving unemployment, and added trenchantly: "I must accuse you of trying to turn this into a political arena and make capital for the Liberal party."

"You know that's not true!" Mr. Pearson exclaimed. "You're just saying it for effect. You know I don't value the Liberal party highly enough for anything like that." He said he was interested only in finding the best system to handle unemployment and was convinced the present system was not satisfactory.

"CALL IT A DAY."

J. W. Berry of Delta said the committee had now heard the Liberal members' speeches in advance of the House debate on unemployment.

"For God's sake," he pleaded, "let that do and call it a day."

"You just don't like our speeches, because you know they're true," said Mr. Pearson, and Mr. Pattullo said the House and the country would hear much more on the whole subject.

The committee heard again today of the work of M. H. McGeough, Federal Government unemployment representative, whose credibility government members have been trying to shake. Dr. W. H. Sutherland insisted that a great injustice had been done Mr. McGeough since he had been attacked and given no chance to reply. He said he had been told that Mr. McGeough had worked for the Canadian Pacific Railway while in the employ of the B. C. Government with the full consent of his chief, Colonel D. B. Martyn, then deputy minister of industries. Any blame must attach to his chief, not to Mr. McGeough.

Mr. Twigg said Mr. McGeough had been given the opportunity to answer questions on these matters, but had refused. In the end the matter was dropped.

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## M'GEOUGH IS ATTACKED

Victoria Times Says Gen. Clark Would Put Him On "Spot."

### CALLED TO OTTAWA

VICTORIA, April 6.—The Times newspaper says that an attack launched by Brigadier-General J. A. Clark, committee counsel, with the announced object of breaking down the credibility of the Dominion Government's relief representative in B. C., M. H. McGeough, in the evidence that has been given over relief administration in B. C., featured Tuesday's session of the Legislature's unemployment relief investigating committee at the Parliament Buildings.

General Clark put on the stand Andrew M. Innis, wharf freight agent of the C. P. R. at Vancouver.

Dr. W. H. Sutherland, Revelstoke, protested against the move, declaring that if the committee went into Mr. McGeough's "past" it should go into the past of all the witnesses that have been called before it.

"This is the grossest injustice to this man McGeough, who is not here, and the committee voted to refuse to allow him to come here again," said T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader. Instead of an impartial counsel for this committee, General Clark appears as a prejudiced counsel for the government—the counsel for the defense.

George S. Pearson, Nanaimo, also joined in protests against General Clark's move as Mr. McGeough was only the Dominion's representative, but the committee on a motion voted five to three to hear Mr. Innis examined on facts of McGeough's former employment affiliations.

Questioned by General Clark, Mr. Innis said Mr. McGeough had been employed by the C. P. R. in Vancouver from July 15, 1927, to September 30, 1931, when he resigned to take the job with the Dominion Government. There were no black marks of any kind against McGeough in connection with his C. P. R. employment, said the witness.

McGeough did not please the authorities of the provincial departments here when he questioned some of their expenditures in connection with relief camps and their equipment. Provincial officials took the ground when they had themselves ordered the goods and authorized payment, that was sufficient evidence that the transaction was entirely proper. The Dominion official, however, declined to pass for payment at Ottawa accounts which he believed might be based on extravagant prices. Then he got a shock when a Provincial Government official on camp operation furnished him with the famous payroll showing 104 carpenters employed at one Fraser Valley camp at \$4 per day, when he said actually only a few carpenters were working there. There were emphatic denials of the "104" story. Then it was learned that the original provincial payroll with the 104 carpenters, names and all, was actually on file in Ottawa. The majority of the committee promptly announced that McGeough would not be allowed to give any further testimony. Much of yesterday's session was devoted to an attack on McGeough.

Meantime McGeough had been called to Ottawa in some pressing matters affecting the federal unemployment programme and can not in any event get back here before the committee finishes its sessions and brings in its report.

From other sources it is learned that McGeough's services were secured some time ago by the provincial department of industries and he was instrumental in getting back into the provincial treasury \$100,000, besides some doubtful loans previously made. Since he took over the federal relief job, he continued to assist with some part-time service for the provincial department of industries without pay.

### RESENTED BY MARTYN

Major Don B. Martyn, formerly head of the provincial department of industries, told The Province today he was much incensed at the unfair nature of some of the testimony taken yesterday at Victoria. He said that the terms of the old arrangement of McGeough's employment—this was some time ago—were fully understood and agreed to, and that he rendered excellent service in the course of time. Major Martyn handed

over his own position to Mr. Vic. Rollins, who is still head of the department. Major Martyn added:

"Mr. Rollins went out of his way to tell me that he had written to McGeough commending him for his service and thanking him for his effort to continue to assist, without salary, in looking after one particular industry which the department was then nursing along. This was at the time that McGeough was appointed by Ottawa as their representative here and he naturally could not continue to draw a salary for other work."

## LIQUOR PRICE DOWN, NOT UP

Pooley Comes to Defense of Liquor Board in Provincial Legislature.

### OFFICE COSTS

VICTORIA, April 6.—Hon. R. H. Pooley, attorney-general, rose in the Legislature on Tuesday to deny that the government had increased the price of liquor to the public.

"The fact is," he declared, "that in January, 1931, the Liquor Control Board adjusted prices, which, on the previous year's business, equalled a reduction of nearly \$75,000."

"It is true that in June, 1931, the board made a slight general increase in all prices, to absorb the raising of the Dominion Government sales tax to 4 per cent.," he continued. "This was done by all liquor boards in Canada."

### ISSUED PRICE LIST

The only reason that printing costs of the board had been increased was, he said, that for the first time the board issued a price list. He refuted the allegation of A. M. Manson, K.C., Liberal of Omineca, that a pamphlet reprint of a Victoria Colonist editorial had been distributed throughout the province at the expense of the taxpayers. "It cost neither the people or the Liquor Board one cent to publish it," he asserted.

Instead of head office costs increasing by nearly \$60,000 from 1930 to 1931, as Mr. Manson had charged, they had increased by a little over \$7000, he added. Administration costs for 1931 were 6.2 per cent. of the total turnover, as compared with 6.9 in 1929, he stated, and in 1930 they represented 5.2 per cent. as against 5.4 in 1928.

### IN STORAGE 28 MONTHS

Referring to the charge that the government made a profit of 235 per cent. on one of the brands on the liquor board's shelves, Mr. Pooley made an explanation of the case.

"This referred to sixty-three cases of Pebbleford Bourbon," he said, "which was seized by the customs and turned over to the board for the amount of the duty. This was done during Mr. Manson's regime. It lay in the warehouse for two years and four months. The board investigated the quality and ascertained it was genuine old Bourbon of a well-known brand. The price was fixed, based on what was ascertained to be the regular price of this line when on the market, and the selling price was fixed accordingly. The line was cleaned out in a short time, which would indicate the public appreciated the value of the article."

"Leaving this stock in the warehouse for over two years and four months without fixing the selling price and marketing the goods, is only one instance of the loss of money by way of interest in carrying too heavy stocks during Mr. Manson's regime, when, on occasions, the stock on hand ran over \$3,300,000. The stock now runs between \$1,000,000 and \$1,300,000, effecting a saving, on a conservative estimate, of interest on \$1,000,000 at 6 per cent., which is equal to \$60,000 a year."

"Certainly," said G. S. Pearson, Liberal of Nanaimo, "wholesale prices of liquor are down and the government has not given a corresponding advantage to the consumer in the retail price."

## PROTEST USELESS, JACK LOUDET SAYS

North Shore Member Replies to Plea On Social Services.

NORTH VANCOUVER, April 6.—"I can not see how any protest on the floor of the House will affect the item in the budget to which you take exception and which I myself have already stated I do not agree with."

So stated Mr. Jack Loutet, M.L.A., in a letter to the District Council Tuesday night replying to the council's protest against any additional burden being placed upon the municipalities by transfer of the cost of social services. The council urged that Mr. Loutet voice a protest from the floor of the House.

"I feel that this matter will be a source of trouble until such time as there is a conference between the government and municipalities to settle the respective fields of taxation and a fair distribution of the burden," observed Mr. Loutet. He added "that the land can not continue to carry the burden it is carrying, but it is quite apparent that both the municipalities and government will have to economize."

Mr. Loutet further stated that he had found it difficult to combat the contention that the municipalities are partly responsible for their present financial condition.

"It was mentioned to me that a year ago the District of North Vancouver gave fixed assessments to all the industries and this year gave the same concession to still another, thus throwing an additional burden on all the ratepayers who can not obtain such an assessment," he declared.

## CITIES AGREE ON LIQUOR RECEIPTS

Municipalities to Be Paid According to Social Service Cost.

(Special to The Province.)

VICTORIA, April 6.—Vancouver and Victoria municipal authorities believed today they had reached the long-sought compromise with the government over the rearrangement of municipal and provincial finances. Under a programme which they expected to be adopted by the government before night, Vancouver would save \$109,000 and Victoria \$43,000 this year on the cost of social services.

The programme, in brief, is as follows: After collecting its liquor profits the government would determine how much all the municipalities of the province owed it for social services under the provisions of the Jones budget, that is, for half the cost of mothers' pensions and for treatment of municipal residents in provincial institutions. This total sum, owed by

all municipalities, would be subtracted from the municipalities' total share of liquor profits. The remainder would then be distributed to the municipalities on the basis of school population, as usual.

This simple transaction would accomplish a highly important result. It would automatically distribute most government revenue to the municipalities which were most entitled to it because they had spent most for social services. Municipalities which had to pay least for social services on account of their residents would receive the least from the government. Without this arrangement, Vancouver and Victoria argue, they would not receive full consideration for their large expense for social services.

This programme to be effective for a year pending a general financial revision was worked out Tuesday night at a conference between city authorities and members for the two largest cities. It was expected to receive government approval and the endorsement of the Conservative caucus some time today.

## MILITIA PLAN TO AID OWN JOBLESS

VICTORIA, April 6.—Militia regiments would care for the unemployed among their members under a plan laid before the unemployment committee of the Legislature today by militia officers, who were introduced by Captain MacGregor Macintosh, M.L.A. of The Islands.

Lieut.-Col. T. B. Monk, commander of the 5th Regiment of Victoria, said the unemployed members of militia units were constantly being influenced by Communists and efforts were being made by their officers to help them by way of free meals and sports. The whole militia system was being disorganized by the sending of militiamen to unemployment camps. As the militia authorities were in personal touch with their men, they could distribute relief to greater advantage than could the government. He urged that whatever money was available for these men be distributed through the militia units.

Major S. S. Sherwood Lett of the Irish Fusiliers, Vancouver, said the sacrifice of men in joining the militia should be recognized by assistance to them through their own units.

About 400 men all over the province could be cared for under this scheme. The militia delegation consisted of Col. Perry, commanding the artillery brigade, Vancouver; Col. P. White, commanding the First Battalion, B.C. Regiment, Vancouver; Major Sherwood Lett, Irish Fusiliers, Vancouver; Major S. F. Moodie, Irish Fusiliers, Vancouver; Col. T. B. Monk and Captain S. Bowden, 5th Coast Brigade, C. G. A. Victoria; Major G. Barton and Captain C. Branson, 16th Canadian Scottish, Victoria.

## PER CAPITA BASIS TO BE SUPPORTED

Members of Legislature Promise Support to City's Plea.

Vancouver and Victoria members of the Legislature, in conference with civic representatives of both cities Tuesday, gave their assurance that they will support the cities' request that social service costs be assessed on a per capita basis. Such a move would save Vancouver about \$109,000 a year.

At present, the costs are assessed according to the number of residents of a city benefitting from the particular services. Civic representatives, however, submitted that the cost should be assessed against all districts on the basis of population. In connection with mothers' pensions, it was stated, a number of recipients come to Vancouver to live, and the city, under the present arrangement, would be assessed for them.

Hon. J. Joshua Hinchliffe said he would suggest to the government that each municipality's share of costs be deducted from its share of liquor profits.

## Loutet Would Restrict B.C. Municipal Taxes

VICTORIA, April 6.—Until a 25 per cent. tax on improvements had been levied there should be no increase over 20 mills in the municipalities' taxation for general purposes. This was the contention of Jack Loutet, Conservative of North Vancouver, in criticizing a clause of the Municipal Act in the Legislature Tuesday. If the provision he suggested was not made then it would mean the confiscation of vacant lands, he claimed.

Both Mr. Loutet and Col. G. A. Walkem, Conservative of Vancouver, protested against Victoria pressing forward municipal legislation which affected all other municipalities. "Victoria should get a separate charter," Col. Walkem asserted. "It is unfair that they should force legislation on other municipalities of the province."

## The Lobbying Racket

THE lobbying racket is an abuse which will have to be dealt with drastically if our costs of government are to be scaled down to something within reason and something commensurate with the ability of our people to pay. Lobbying is, of course, a difficult thing to control. Every citizen has a right to approach the Legislature through its committees and say his say in support of or in opposition to proposed legislation. But if every citizen availed himself of that right, the wheels of government would be clogged altogether. There must be a limit. It is not, however, this more or less open lobbying that is objectionable. The baneful work is done behind the scenes, and it quickly becomes a nuisance to the legislator, wearing down his patience, wasting his time, exasperating him when he resents it, as he should, corrupting him when he puts himself in the way of yielding to its blandishments.

The lobbying of private interests, the one opposing the other, is something to which we have become accustomed and to which a sort of grudging tolerance has developed. But of late, we have had public bodies lobbying against one another at Victoria. For weeks, the city solicitor has done little else but conduct the city's lobby at the capital, and there has been a continual procession of aldermen back and

forth across the gulf. Last year, the mayor was so constant in his attendance at Victoria that he became almost an absentee mayor. This year, the mayor is unable to go, and the aldermen take his place, the business of the city playing second fiddle while the Legislature is in session.

And now a new phase develops. The City Council in its feud with the School Board has been pulling strings to have legislation passed which would put the trustees to some extent under the aldermanic thumb. To counter the aldermanic lobbying, the members of the School Board have had to go lobbying, too. So we have had the citizens of Vancouver represented at Victoria this week by three sets of people—all elected by the citizens and all functioning at the public expense—the aldermen pulling one way, the school trustees pulling the other way, and the eight members of the Legislature in the middle.

And the ratepayers wonder why the costs of government keep up and why tax rates have a way of mounting!

## DELEGATION WOULD LIMIT HORSE RACES

### Social Service Council Proposes Six-day Meets at Each of Five Tracks.

VICTORIA, April 6.—Reduction of the horse-racing season in British Columbia to a total of six days at each of the five race-courses, was urged by the Social Service Council of B. C. at a conference with the cabinet yesterday.

The council also urged:

That reasonable hours be set for the performance of the marriage ceremony.

That unmarried fathers' payments towards the support of children be based on ability to pay.

That the province adopt the indeterminate sentence for various classes of offenders, and establish a parole board on the Ontario system.

That the government take steps to find out all the facts of the unemployment and general industrial situation at all times with a view to long-range planning of business generally.

These proposals were presented on behalf of the council and many supporting organizations by Rev. Hugh Dobson and a large delegation.

## From Here, Where?

MAN, said Aristotle, in a phrase which has been famous for centuries, is a political animal. In defining his fellow humans in this way, the old philosopher had no thought of complimenting them or of condemning. He was merely describing them as precisely as he could, merely telling his students that it was characteristic of men that they should work together—that they should be members of a community or a state and should co-operate in discharging the functions of that community or state.

Much water has flowed under the bridges of the world since Alexander's tutor wrote his "Politics," but man has not changed essentially. The British Columbian of 1932 is as much a political animal, in the sense Aristotle meant, as was the Macedonian of 2300 years ago. Like the Greek, he finds his highest realization as a member of a community or state. But the word "political" has changed a good deal in the centuries. Where it used to suggest pulling together for the good of the state, it now means, not only in British Columbia, but elsewhere, pulling apart for the good of the party. And the good of the party and the good of the state are, unfortunately, not always synonymous.

A good deal has been said in these columns of late of the futility and waste and utter insanity of devoting so much time and energy and money to the promotion of party fortunes and neglecting the essential business of the province. Of politics in the sense of division and spoils and patronage and obstruction, the people of British Columbia have had a sickening. But of politics in the Aristotelian sense, where the aim of government is the general good, they haven't had much experience. Aristotle insisted upon linking politics with virtue. A right government, he held, was one that aimed at the good of all. Any government which aimed at its own good was, in his view, a deviation from the right and so something less than the best. Even a democracy, in his view, left something to be desired since its aim was the good, not of all, but of the majority.

In British Columbia, we have a succession of governments whose aim has been not even the good of the majority, but the good of the government or of the party, and a sorry pass they have brought us to. Today we have a Legislature which instead of aiming at the good of the province, which needs strict economy and a sane and businesslike administration, is obviously aiming at the good of the legislators. There is no intention, we are told, of reducing the size of the Assembly to workable proportions. An opportunity must be left for every member to get back again, when the gong sounds for the next election race.

For British Columbia in its present quandary, there is no hope in such tactics as these. The members of the Legislature were elected to consult not their own interests, but the general interest, and the electors at large must see that they do it. Otherwise, no seats for any of them, no matter what arrangements they make.

How can the general interest be consulted under the circumstances now prevailing? The method has already been suggested in these columns—a national government for British Columbia, a government in which the various political organizations will forget that phase of politics which means strife and division and remember only the phase which means unity and co-operation—a government in which the general interest will stand first and party interest and personal ambitions will be submerged—a government, to paraphrase Lincoln's famous phrase, of British Columbians, by British Columbians, for British Columbians.

## Vancouver Officials Support Moratorium On B. C. Mortgages

VICTORIA, April 6.—Vancouver city authorities got behind the movement for a moratorium on B. C. mortgages today when J. B. Williams, city solicitor, pressed this plan on Premier Tolmie in company with William Dick, M.L.A., of Vancouver. They will meet Attorney-General Pooley to discuss the matter later today. The government is definitely committed to moratorium legislation, but the terms of it are still under consideration. What appears to be a majority of the private members of the House favor an out-and-out moratorium for a year on all mortgage principal—a project already publicly endorsed by T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader. If the government's legislation provides instead for an appeal to the courts in cases of destitution, sponsors of the blanket moratorium will move to amend it in committee and may well succeed in doing so. The opposition will back such a move and many Conservatives are strongly in favor of it.

### Film Quota Bill.

VICTORIA, April 6.—Final reading was given in the Legislature Tuesday to the bill which provides for a quota of British films to be shown in British Columbia. Under this measure the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council has power to set the quota at any time. The bill was under fire from many angles in its early stages, but there was no opposition in the House to third reading.



By BRUCE

## VICTORIA

tired House met on V. The 1 a.m. session night had left one. No one was a rare ble to do anything long the session. The progress was awful issue, sufficient to before Monday for sure.

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VICTORIA. lected on oil lumbia will be than 10 per c 5 per cent, of duct. This p amendment to S. Loughbess Gas Act annou Wednesday, W first is provid cent royalty



## Log of the House

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

**VICTORIA, April 7.**—It was a tired House and gloomy that met on Wednesday afternoon. The 1 a.m. sitting of the previous night had left its mark on everyone. No one wanted to talk, which was a rare blessing; no one wanted to do anything which might prolong the session over next week-end. The whips said the day's progress would determine that awful issue, but whether it was sufficient to let us out of here before Monday or not, no one knew for sure.

The first part of the afternoon was spent on the old and troublesome question of chiropractic. For ten years this House has wondered what to do about chiropractors and for ten years it has avoided doing anything. Now it has to decide one way or the other and it is finding that extremely difficult, especially as each member is allowed to think and decide for himself.

On a government measure it is so much simpler. You just vote with your party, having said what you think in caucus and abided by the majority therein. But on a bill of this sort, where neither party takes a stand, where opinion cuts clear across party lines, you do as you like and you talk as you like. This privilege the articulate back benches seem determined to exploit to the full, while the inarticulate ones at least will have to vote according to their own consciences. It is most irregular.

Dr. Gillis of Yale delivered another of those simple speeches which impress with their obvious sincerity, and he appeared as usual in the role of chief critic of chiropractic. To Dr. Gillis chiropractic just isn't scientific and as a scientific man he resists the thought of perpetuating it. Dr. Kingston, another medico, felt the same way, which was not surprising, and before the argument was over we found ourselves in the midst of a learned but extremely dull debate on subluxations of the spine, serums, of which Dr. Kingston exhibited a sample in a tube, vaccines and many other grisly topics of the medical craft.

Finally, Dr. Borden sought to adjourn the debate, to take up the argument again later, but many members, determined to get home for the week-end, chiropractors or no chiropractors, demanded that the debate go on. The custom of parliament is to allow members to adjourn debates. It is, indeed, an unwritten law. But in a crisis of this sort there is no time for these refinements of parliamentary courtesy. Dr. Borden's own friends in the Conservative benches were loudest in their demand for action, but when a division was taken, an extreme measure in such a case, parliamentary courtesy triumphed and the debate stood adjourned.

### MR. JONES' BABY.

We went on then with legislation rather rapidly, for no one wanted to discuss it, and our hope of home by Saturday night rose again.

So did our spirits after a good dinner, and we were ready at last to begin the real business of this session. Mr. Jones' new tax law. Mr. Jones fairly purred as he told how he was reaching out to get new revenues from those who could afford to supply it, particularly from the rich who kept their money outside the province. Mr. Pattullo, protesting that this was a nice time in the session, in the dying hours and all, to bring down this major bill, adjourned the debate.

We then verged for the second time on the Ross Napier case when Mr. Pattullo sought to reopen one of the estimates so as to read a statement from Colonel Napier charging Provincial Secretary Howe with making false statements about him. But as Minister of Education Hinchliffe shouted "No!" with stern determination, the Conservative majority refused to open the vote, a proceeding rare indeed. And, as Mr. Pattullo re-

**VICTORIA, April 7.**—Royalties collected on oil produced in British Columbia will be on a basis of not more than 10 per cent, and not less than 3 per cent, the value of the product. This provision is made in an amendment to Minister of Lands N. S. Lougheed's Petroleum and Natural Gas Act announced in the Legislature Wednesday. When the bill came down first is provided for a straight 12 1-2 cent royalty per barrel of oil.

marked, it would do no good anyway, since the facts would get out, and such tactics would only prolong the argument over other estimates—a nicely-worded threat which did not escape unnoticed.

There followed a sample of what Mr. Pattullo can do with estimates when he wants to. He plunged us up to the neck into the old, old question of deficits and boldly proclaimed that the government's shortage for the year which ended last Friday would turn out to be \$8,000,000, which he sought to prove by official figures. Mr. Jones answered just as boldly that this was all wrong, that Mr. Pattullo's minnows were exaggerated into whales; but very cannily, very much like the well-trained finance minister, he gave us no inkling as to what the deficit would be.

Then Mr. Pattullo began to read figures from the comptroller-general's report to establish his case, and Mr. Jones cut in pleasantly with "Wrong again!" Mr. Pattullo paused impressively and assumed a studied look of utter amazement. What, he asked, were we coming to? No one seemed to know. Mr. Pattullo would tell us. He would tell us that we were becoming what he had tried to say before when Mr. Speaker objected—

Happily Mr. Hayward was presiding and he had no objection to these words, which had shocked the more delicate sensibilities of Mr. Speaker. Yes, we were becoming a public asylum when finance ministers denied figures which they had themselves given the House, and Mr. Pattullo was proceeding to elaborate his theory of official lunacy when it was discovered that Mr. Jones had been looking at the wrong page. Mr. Jones graciously acknowledged his error. The galleries uttered.

## NAPIER'S CHARGES ARE LEFT UNHEARD

### Former Civil Service Commissioner Accused Howe Of Misstatements.

**VICTORIA, April 7.**—On a straight party vote the Legislature refused Wednesday to allow T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, to read out a statement by Col. Ross Napier, former civil service commissioner, on the circumstances of his dismissal from the government's employ last August.

Col. Napier charged Hon. S. L. Howe, provincial secretary, with "deliberate misstatements." He referred to Mr. Howe's remarks in the Legislature on Tuesday night to the effect that Col. Napier had been immediately offered his former post as government agent at Vernon, because he was not needed to continue his work as commissioner.

"The greater part of Mr. Howe's speech," Col. Napier says in his statement, "was made up of deliberate misstatements, most of which were definitely known by the minister to be such, and the rest of the speech was characterized by half-truths and omission of essentials."

"Had the minister stated the truth, as he once admitted to me, that I had to be sacrificed so that a political appointment might be made from outside the civil service, one might at least have had some respect for him as a supporter of the patronage system. But the statements made by him are on a par with all other actions in connection with the matter."

Col. Napier attached a copy of a letter from Mr. Howe announcing the revision of his appointment as commissioner and the appointment of Roger Monteith. This, he said, proved that he had been dismissed, contrary to Mr. Howe's statement.

When Mr. Pattullo asked for reopening of the provincial secretary's estimates to read the statement, his request was turned down with all Conservatives opposed. "Can we not have a full discussion?" he asked, "or are we going to continue to do these things in secrecy?"

## Commissioners Interfered So B.C. May Turn Them Out

### Victoria Magistrate Complained When Sweep Raid Was Vetoed.

### Pooley Now Plans Board Modelled on New Lines.

**VICTORIA, April 7.**—Complaint by Magistrate George Jay to Attorney-General K. H. Pooley that the processes of his court were being interfered with by city Police Commissioners Andrew McGavin and Mrs. Dorothy North brought swift action from the attorney-general's department in support of the judicial authority of the magistrate. Provincial police, under direction of Corporal Harvey, acting on instructions from Col. J. H. McMullen, commissioner of provincial police, and accompanied by Inspector John Boulton of the city force, raided the headquarters of the Victoria Hospitals Club, 642 Yates street, and seized some thousands of club tickets, ticket stubs and correspondence files. The complaint of Magistrate Jay was that the two commissioners had interfered with the serving of a search warrant for the premises in question which had been issued by him on request of the city police.

### A NEW COMMISSION.

Following the raid on the Yates street quarters, Attorney-General Pooley stated that by reason of complaints that could not be ignored, the government proposed to take immediate action to change the whole constitution of the Victoria Police Commission. While he did not particularize in the processes by which such changes would be made, he indicated that they would be in the nature of a form of commission in force in some Eastern Canadian

centres, where the County Court Judge, the police board, under the chairmanship of the mayor.

## MOVIE CENSORSHIP ASSAILED IN HOUSE

### G. A. Walkem Declares Censor Rejects and Appeal Board Passes.

**VICTORIA, April 7.**—British Columbia's system of motion picture censorship was assailed and defended in the Legislature Wednesday without result either way.

G. A. Walkem, Conservative of Vancouver, said the present system was absurd, since the censors had rejected fourteen pictures early this year, and the appeal board had allowed twelve of them, and probably would allow the other two.

Attorney-General Pooley said he had received complaints about a picture mentioned by Mr. Walkem and had sent several members of his staff to see it. The ladies and gentlemen who had seen it had all reported to him that protests against it must have come from a crank.

It was time parents took responsibility for bringing up their children and protecting young morals, instead of unloading that duty upon the state, said Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C. He could not understand why motion pictures should be subjected to special censorship, while other exhibitions, like vaudeville shows, were not restricted, except by the Criminal Code in regard to obscenity. People who were of age had a right, in his opinion, to see the kind of shows they liked.

## REDUCED U.B.C. GRANT PASSED

### Pattullo Charges Government With "Dismantling" University.

\$212,700 VOTED

**VICTORIA, April 7.**—With a protest from T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, that the government was trying to "dismantle" the University of British Columbia, the estimate vote which reduces the government grant by \$212,700 passed in the Legislature Wednesday.

"You give the board of governors of the University so much money," said Mr. Pattullo, "and tell them to do what they can about it. That is the trouble. The minister of education should know what they are doing and how they are cutting down."

"Nothing else could be done in that regard," said Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, minister of education. "The board of governors have co-operated loyally with the government," he continued. "They have done their best, but they have not yet reported to me just what has been done."

Premier S. F. Tolmie promised that he would look into the question of an Empire marketing board grant for University research work.

Research work was vitally important to B. C. industries, asserted Mayor A. W. Gray of New Westminster. He asked if the government had provided to match the \$600 grant of the Marketing Board.

While realizing the importance of research work, replied the Premier, it was necessary to avoid duplication. The Federal Government, he explained, had set up splendid equipment for research work, particularly in agriculture.

## CHIROPRACTOR BILL AGAIN DEADLOCKED

### Medical Men Rap Measure; Maitland Pleads For Definite Action.

**VICTORIA, April 7.**—The Legislature again failed to reach a second reading decision of the chiropractors bill Wednesday.

"Unless we take some definite action," declared Hon. R. L. Maitland, minister without portfolio, who gave his support to the measure, "we will have this sort of argument going on and on. There is a great deal of business worked up by the hysterical idea that these chiropractors are martyrs, being prosecuted by this Legislature."

"The sooner they are deprived of this help and the sooner they are forced to rely on their ability to carry on this kind of work, the better." For chiropractors to call themselves "doctors," he added, was to cheat and defraud the public.

Dr. J. J. Gillis, Liberal of Yale, criticized the royal commission's lack of scope when the enquiry was held in Vancouver last summer. "We are back to the same old position," he said. "The real question of whether or not the public is properly protected has not been satisfactorily answered."

The recent smallpox epidemic in Vancouver was used as an example by Dr. C. M. Kingston, Conservative of Grand Forks-Greenwood, in decrying the fact that chiropractors do not recognize the value of serum. "It was this serum," he stated, "which possibly avoided a disaster in that city."

## WALKER URGES ONE POLICE FORCE

Would Mean No Saving to  
B. C., Attorney-General  
Declares.

VICTORIA, April 7.—One police force for British Columbia was urged by Col. G. A. Walker, Conservative of Vancouver, in the Legislature Wednesday.

"Why in the world we have not one body of police to do the work of this province I do not know," he declared. "We have the provincial police, the R. C. M. P., municipal police, city police, Vancouver Harbor Board police, C. P. R. police and others.

"Now that the R. C. M. P. is to police New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, surely they can do the same in B. C."

Lack of co-operation between provincial police and municipal police in upper country towns, he claimed, had impaired efficiency of law enforcement.

"I want to flatly deny that there is any such lack of co-operation," asserted Hon. R. H. Pooley, attorney-general. "Our provincial police are as fine a body of men as could be found anywhere."

A federal police force for B. C. could not save any money, Mr. Pooley stated. Provincial police did 45 per cent. of their work looking after the work of other departments, he said, which would be charged for by federal police. Moreover, the provincial police were looking after twenty-two municipalities.

Mr. Pooley added that in one case—that of Game Warden Cameron—there had been lack of co-operation. Due to a feud between him and the municipal constable, Cameron had not been able to see photographs of Bagley and Fawcett. "Cameron was refused admittance to his office," he stated, "otherwise the two criminals might have been apprehended."

## NEW INCOME TAX FEATURES GIVEN

Jones Tells House How Ex-  
emptions Will Work  
Out Under Bill.

VICTORIA, April 7.—Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance, announced some new features of his taxation bill when the measure was given second reading in the House.

Mr. Jones explained that the gross income tax and special revenue tax of 1 per cent. are discontinued and the new rates substituted.

The outstanding feature is the removal of all exemptions from taxation, except on casual domestic employees such as charwomen who are paid less than \$5 for a given period of employment.

Personal allowances are now made positive exemptions instead of rebates as formerly, and the exemption applicable to a married person is also extended to include a "householder."

The amounts of the various exemptions are as follows:

	New exemption
Married person, widow or widower with dependent children	\$500
"Householder"	500
Single person, widow or widower without dependent children	Nil
Dependents (each)	200
Insurance premiums paid (up to)	200
Non-residents	Nil

The exemptions under the Special Revenue Tax Act of last year are no longer applicable.

Husbands and wives who have each a separate income are entitled to one combined maximum exemption of \$500, and this, as well as the exemption for dependent children, may be claimed by either or apportioned between them.

The methods of determining net taxable income, and the deductions allowed for expenses, remain unaltered except as to minor details.

Until the passage of this act, employers will continue to deduct 1 per cent. from the wages of their employees under the provisions of last year's Special Revenue Tax Act.

But upon this act coming into force, the exemptions of \$15 and \$25 per week will no longer apply, and employers will thereafter be required to deduct 1 per cent. from the wages of all their employees.

## CITY RECOMMENDS MORATORIUM BILL

VICTORIA, April 7.—Re-enactment of the wartime moratorium law of 1918 in British Columbia, providing for a postponement of principal and interest payments on mortgages, was urged on the government here by the city of Vancouver through its solicitor, J. B. Williams.

With strong support among Conservative members the city was hopeful that its plans would be adopted in place of a more restricted programme which was originally suggested.

In effect the legislation advocated by Vancouver gives the courts absolute power to postpone the payment of principal sums, to postpone payment of interest for any specified time, according to the mortgagee's ability to pay, and to order the continuance of maturing mortgages at existing interest rates.

So that poor property owners shall not be faced with petty legal costs, Mr. Williams suggested that the government allow the courts to forego their ordinary fees in extreme cases. Mr. Williams believes that the cost of any application to the courts for relief would not be large enough to embarrass any property owners.

## B. C. FINDS NEW INCOME TAX SOURCE

Co-operative Society Mem-  
bers and Those With  
Outside Incomes Affected.

VICTORIA, April 7.—British Columbia will tap new sources of revenue by taxing two important and hitherto exempt groups—namely, citizens who have income earned outside, and not brought into, the province, and members of farmers' co-operative marketing organizations.

These unprecedented taxation measures were announced in the Legislature on Wednesday by Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance. There are also provisions for new taxation of guarantee, trust and loan companies and public utility corporations. The Taxation Act, with the government's entire taxation programme for the coming year set out, with additions to the original budget proposals, was adjourned on second reading by T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader.

Residents of the province who have income earned outside, which was not brought into, the province have hitherto been exempt from provincial taxation. "This," declared Mr. Jones, "has been a direct encouragement for wealthy citizens and corporations to send their surplus funds outside the province for investment, and thus to avoid taxation. Under the new clause, such ex-province income will be taxable, whether it is brought in or not, unless it is derived from capital invested outside before the taxpayer became a resident of the province."

In order, however, to encourage wealthy citizens to come to British Columbia, Mr. Jones explained, there would be exemption on income left outside the province by persons who come here to retire, and who had their funds invested elsewhere before they came.

In order to collect this taxation the government will, if necessary, ask for a statutory declaration from a resident as to the amount invested outside the province and earning income.

All income from farming operations has also been exempt, but the income of co-operative organizations was not so exempted. The new act reverses this procedure and exempts income in the hands of the co-operative marketing organizations, but distributions to the farmer members will be taxable in their hands, if the income to the individual member exceeds \$1000.

## The Moratorium

THE attorney-general's moratorium bill is still hanging fire at Victoria, and rumors coming out of the capital suggest that the government caucus is so divided on the issue that the measure may go over until next session. Next session, we are afraid, may be too late to save a good many of the mortgagors who have been depending on a measure of relief.

A moratorium is not a pleasant thing to have to put into force. But it is something which should be put into force at once or dropped altogether. To let it drag, as it has dragged at Victoria, is to make matters worse rather than better. It gives the mortgagor no relief and tends to frighten the mortgagee and make him more importunate than he would otherwise be.

To let the matter stand in abeyance for another twelve months, with the

general assumption that if things did not improve, it would be put into force at the 1933 session, would simply be to invite twelve months of foreclosures. What the effect of such a course would be on real estate values may be imagined. In the interests of the mortgagees themselves, it is desirable to stay any reckless pressure toward a general campaign of foreclosure. Under the proposed moratorium, the mortgagees can scarcely suffer. Their interest will be paid—and that is no little concession these days. The taxes on the property will be kept up. And the absence of foreclosures will serve to maintain values, even in a sluggish market.

## Exemptions Allowed In Anglers' Licenses

VICTORIA, April 7.—Members of both parties urged in the Legislature Wednesday that exemptions from the \$1 angler's license be allowed those who fish to provide themselves with food, and men on old age pensions. There were many families out of work, or with practically no wage, who went out to get a few fish for food purposes, Thomas Uphill, Labor member of Fernie, said. Dr. H. C. Winch, Liberal of Skeena, backed him up and claimed that many old men with small pensions also relied on fishing to help them out. Unemployment relief recipients might also be exempted, suggested Dr. C. M. Kingston, Conservative of Grand Forks-Greenwood.

Under the Game Act exemptions are allowed to all those under 18 years of age and prospectors.

## Four Constituencies In Vancouver Defined Under Redistribution

VICTORIA, April 7.—Vancouver will be divided into four separate constituencies under the redistribution measure to be brought down shortly in the Legislature, as already forecast in The Province. The four constituencies will be Vancouver-Burrard, Vancouver Centre, Vancouver East and Vancouver-Point Grey. This was made known by Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, minister of education, in explaining amendments to the Provincial Elections Act in the House Wednesday.

## Victoria House May Continue Next Week

VICTORIA, April 7.—Party whips had grave doubts today about winding up the Legislature's present session this week as they surveyed the business yet to be considered. The redistribution bill, most contentious measure of the session, has yet to be introduced in the House, the Taxation Act changes have not been considered, the full dress unemployment debate is still ahead and a fierce fight is going on behind the scenes on the terms of the mortgage moratorium between those who favor an out-and-out postponement of principal payments and those who want an appeal to the courts.

## Pooley Asks Ottawa To Halt Payment of Part Fine to Police

VICTORIA, April 7.—Attorney-General Pooley told the Legislature Wednesday he would ask the Federal Government to abolish the system under which its police receive a portion of some fines. Mr. Pooley's announcement followed a protest against the system by Dr. J. J. Gillis of Yale. Mr. Pooley agreed that the present regulations were undesirable and Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., said it was "a rotten system, sure to interfere with a fair, impartial enforcement of the law." Dr. Gillis said it led to many unnecessary arrests in small cases.

## B. C. Police 'C'

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VICTORIA, April 7.—Commissioners and Margaret Macdonald, not now morning may be their official role of commissioners. The board was limited to the w... regarding... of... hospitals... by the... whether or not... present... said this... notification... knew nothing... Meanwhile... tion, was a... of the... Club would... attention. Off... announced that... under way for... meeting, at w... best-known in... would discuss... clubs having... direction of the...

VICTORIA, April 7.—The amendment to the Legislative Council, municipal... would... change the wh... Police Commis... The proposal... spectacular de... city during the... following the ch... George Jay th... missioners inter... the course of ca...

CHICAGO METH... "Duresse and... said the attorn... want no Chic... province."

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NOT THE FINE... Mr. Pooley an... stions in the... might apply to... toria commissio... first time ther... ence with the... "I am told t... chief was taken... and told that... shirt taken fro... happened to h... he did what b... Pooley. "We c... cogram in B. C...



# B. C. May Cur Police Board's 'Chicago Ideas'

Pooley Seeks Power to Supplant Victoria Commission.

POLICE CHIEF INTIMIDATED

Official Is Told He Might "Lose His Shirt."

VICTORIA, April 8. — Police Commissioners Andrew McGavin and Margaret Dorothy North tomorrow morning will attend what may be their last meeting in the official role of commissioners. Commissioner McGavin announced this morning a meeting of the board would be held, and it is stated he would make a statement regarding the controversy arising out of the commission's position regarding the Victoria Hospitals Club and subsequent action by the magistrate and attorney-general.

Whether or not Mayor Leeming will be present is uncertain. The mayor said this morning he had no notification of a meeting and knew nothing about it.

Meanwhile, in another direction, was a promise that the affairs of the Hospitals Sweepstake Club would be brought to public attention. Officials of the club announced that preparations were under way for a mass public meeting, at which some of the best-known lawyers in the city would discuss the legality of clubs having drawings under the direction of the members.

VICTORIA, April 8.—Under amendments brought before the Legislature on Thursday by Hon. R. H. Pooley, attorney-general, municipalities of British Columbia would have the power to change the whole basis of their Police Commission system.

The proposals arise out of the spectacular developments in this city during the past two days, following the charge of Magistrate George Jay that two police commissioners interfered with police in the course of carrying out a warrant.

**CHICAGO METHODS.**

"Duress and threats were used," said the attorney-general, "and we want no Chicago methods in this province."

Under his amendments, any municipality, by a petition of its council, could have the police commission changed from an elective to an appointive basis. In place of the elected commission would be appointed one under the chairmanship of the mayor or reeve, with the County Court judge and municipal magistrate as the other two members. This would be effected immediately by order of Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. The elected commission would at once cease to hold office.

In the case of Victoria, however, the change would apply at once.

T. D. Pastullo, opposition leader, suggested that the course might be a little too hasty.

"If all this happened in Victoria," he remarked, "then it is surely a terrible reflection on the voters of the city."

**NOT THE FIRST TIME.**

Mr. Pooley said there were provisions in the criminal code which might apply to the action of the Victoria commissioners. It was not the first time there had been interference with the chief of police.

"I am told that at one time the chief was taken to a private house and told that he would have the shirt taken from his back, as had happened to his predecessor, unless he did what he was told," said Mr. Pooley. "We can not tolerate Chicagoism in B. C."

Rule Threatened



MRS. DOROTHY NORTH.



JOE NORTH.

WHEN Mrs. North was elected to the Victoria Police Board she announced: "I'll be Joe's mouthpiece. But Joe will give me the cue." Joe is her husband, and some years ago he was police commissioner in his own right. Joe's regime was spectacular and bitter, ending in lawsuits that cost him so much that he was without the necessary property qualifications to run in the last election. So Mrs. North ran instead.

If Attorney-General R. H. Pooley puts through his amendment for altering the composition of police boards, Mrs. North and Andy McGavin will be removed from office in Victoria.

## Legislature Will Not Act On Strikes Question

VICTORIA, April 8.—An attempt of Thomas Uphill, Labor member of Fernie, to have the Legislature petition the Dominion for elimination of that section of the Criminal Code enacted during the Winnipeg general strike of 1919, was turned down by members of the House Thursday. The clause to which he objected had to do with tightening regulations to deal with such strikes, inspection of mails, imprisonment of strikers, and other phases.

# Moratorium On Principal Only, In Pooley's Bill

Payment for Interest And Taxes Must Continue.

CITY SEEKS HELP FOR RELIEF MEN

City Solicitor Seeks to Include Protection On Interest.

VICTORIA, April 8.—While the government has introduced a partial moratorium on mortgage payments, to be in force for one year, Vancouver, through City Solicitor J. B. Williams moved vigorously today to secure a complete moratorium not only on principal but on interest as well. Mr. Williams is seeking to have the government's bill amended in committee and is hopeful that this will be done.

Briefly, the Moratorium Bill, as interpreted by Mr. Williams, gives no relief on mortgage interest payments. But principal payments are postponed for a year, unless the mortgagee can convince the courts that the mortgagor can make such payments before that time.

**NOT COMPLETE PROTECTION.**

Mr. Williams contends, therefore, that as court action is allowed in this way, the bill does not even grant a complete moratorium on principal. Relief on interest as provided by the Wartime Moratorium Act is the great need of the householder, he declares. Mr. Williams issued a statement which gave members of the House new light on the whole situation. He said:

"The act makes it necessary for a mortgagor to obtain special leave of the court before commencing foreclosure proceedings and this only applies to such cases where interest and taxes are not in arrears. If interest and taxes are in arrears the ordinary court procedure still applies. This, in effect, means that where any interest is owing or taxes are unpaid, the mortgagor receives no relief whatever. This bill specifically does not apply to interest payments in any form."

"Numerically the small householders form about 85 per cent. of the mortgagors, and it is the small householder, owning his own home, who is in the greatest need of relief. He is therefore subject to foreclosure if he owes any payment whatever other than on principal. In Vancouver, for instance, there are some 700 property-owners obtaining relief, who are unable to pay mortgage interest or taxes and these people will not benefit by the Moratorium Act."

"A great number of the mortgages are payable on an amortized basis, that is to say, monthly payments, including principal and interest. One payment in arrears on such agreements removes the householder from the provisions of the act and he is subject to foreclosure despite the act."

Modelled after the Ontario act, the bill provides that interest and tax payments must continue to be paid. The onus is placed on the mortgagor (lender of the money) to take a case to court, in regard to unpaid interest or other default. In the event of a mortgagee attempting to foreclose, through the courts, in respect to a mortgage of \$3000 or under, no costs in excess of \$25 shall be assessed against the mortgagor in respect to court action.

# MAYOR DEFIES CITY COUNCIL

Instructs Solicitor to Oppose Moratorium Bill At Victoria.

"TAKE A CHANCE"

Despite the fact that the City Council endorsed the principle of the Mortgage Moratorium Bill introduced in the Legislature by Attorney-General R. H. Pooley, Mayor Louis D. Taylor this morning expressed his opposition to the measure on the grounds that it does not afford protection to the man who needs it most. The moratorium should be extended to cover interest and taxes, declares the mayor, and on his instructions City Solicitor J. B. Williams, now in Victoria, has made representations along this line.

The council some time ago approved the moratorium proposal as introduced by Mr. Pooley, and last Wednesday repeated its endorsement, ignoring arguments of Ald. L. D. McDonald and the mayor that no protection would be afforded to relieve dependents who could not pay interest and taxes. The mayor was asked to communicate the council's decision to Mr. Williams.

Reminded that his plans are contrary to those of the council, the mayor this morning insisted that the moratorium should not be confined to mortgage principal, but should permit deferment of payment on interest and also taxes.

"Mr. Williams is acting on my instructions," he said, "and I back up his arguments in this regard. He can represent the mayor of Vancouver—it is not the first time he has done it. And if I do not represent the City Council, I'll soon hear from it; but I'll take a chance."

"This proposed act does not protect relief men who can not find a day's work to pay either interest or taxes. What is to be done by the poor devils who can't find a thing to do? They should be protected just as much as the man who is able to find enough money to cover his taxes and interest."

His worship declared that it would be preferable for the city to wait for payment of its taxes in a few instances for the year of the moratorium rather than that people should lose their homes. He added that, in any event, such people may go into arrears for three years before their property is sold.

## B.C. May Vote On Appointive Police Board Proposal

VICTORIA, April 8.—A change in the police commission system throughout the municipalities of British Columbia, with the exception of Vancouver, which operates under a special charter, loomed as a possibility today following the upheaval in the Victoria commission.

If the system is changed from an elective to an appointive basis, as has been indicated here, there may be a referendum to the people first.

Following developments here Thursday, the government announced that it is proposed to take immediate action to change the whole constitution of the Victoria Police Commission. Attorney-General R. H. Pooley indicated that it might be in the nature of a commission similar to that in force in some Eastern Canadian centres. In these, the county court judge, magistrate and mayor form the police board, under the chairmanship of the mayor.







Friday, April 8, 1932.

Saturday, April 9, 1932.

## Victoria's Flare-up

IT seems to be ordained in the public affairs of this province that every so often the pleasant and decorous city of Victoria shall have a little flare-up about its Police Commission. It is enjoying all the excitements of such a little flare-up now. Two members of the Police Commission have interfered with the authority of Magistrate George Jay. Magistrate Jay has made formal complaint to Mr. Attorney-General Pooley. Mr. Pooley has sent in a squad of his provincial police to do what the police commissioners wouldn't let the city police do. And Mr. Pooley intimates that he is so utterly fed up with this sort of thing from the Victoria Police Commission that the government will have to change the constitution of that body.

This affair raises several questions of general public importance to the province, but first of all the public interest is bound to be excited by the peculiar facts of the case. Magistrate Jay issued a search warrant upon the application of the Victoria chief of police, who alleged that there was reason to believe that the Victoria Hospitals Club was illegally conducting a hospital sweepstake. The interference came when the two elected commissioners forbade the chief to execute the warrant.

Magistrate Jay was doing his sworn duty when he issued the warrant; there seems to be no doubt that the two commissioners were guilty of a sort of misfeasance of office when they interfered. But the interesting circumstance is that one of the interfering commissioners is Mrs. Joseph North, and it is Mrs. Joseph North who openly proclaims that she holds office in order to pursue the policies of Mr. Joseph North, debarred by statute from holding office herself.

The comedy of the Norths versus the rest in the police affairs of Victoria has been going on for years, ever since Mr. Joseph North was a police commissioner himself, and got involved in a libel suit with several police officers. Nowadays—and as a consequence of that ancient feud—Mr. North finds himself ineligible for office, but Mrs. North gets

herself elected, and Mrs. North, as in this latest affair, manages to stir things up in the best North tradition. It is an amusing comedy, but we are not surprised that Mr. Pooley has found it to be exceedingly tiresome.

Mr. Pooley's remedy is a complete change in the constitution of the Victoria Police Commission. He would change it from an elected commission to an appointed one, and he suggests that the model might well be that of many cities of Eastern Canada, where the County Court judge, the local police magistrate and the city mayor are ex-officio the Police Commission.

But Mr. Pooley's remedy, no matter how reasonable it may seem, will necessitate an amendment to the Municipal Act, which provides that the municipalities of this province shall elect two members of the Police Commission, while the mayor or reeve shall be the third, and presiding, member ex-officio. And Mr. Pooley's remedy also seems to ignore the rather significant fact that it was the citizens of Victoria who elected Mrs. Joseph North.

## Log of the House

*We Put on Our Seven-league Boots—We Give the Government a Blank Cheque—But With Some Private Doubts—We Pass Three Sentences of Death—And We Hope that the End Is Not Far Off.*

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

VICTORIA, April 9.—We hurried towards the end on Friday in those seven-league boots which are reserved for the dying hours. We swept, in a few minutes, over ground which would have required as many days back at the beginning of the session. And though we had grudgingly given up hope of finishing by the week-end, though we knew we must come back Monday, we were determined to make these dying hours as short and painless as possible.

The day started in the usual testy Friday-afternoon humor, aggravated by so many previous Friday afternoons that we have lost all count of them by now. When you realize that we expected to prorogue two Fridays back, and that we are definitely going into next week, you will understand why Mr. Pattullo was annoyed. Mr. Pattullo protested, and the truth of his protest was apparent to all, that the government was heaving nearly all the vital legislation of the session into the House at the last minute, when no one had time to consider it properly.

As for Mr. Pattullo, he found it necessary, after the House adjourned at midnight, to sit up until 2 or 3 in the morning to try to make something out of the legislation which the government had had a full year to prepare. However, he was fair enough to admit that, with three hours' consideration, he probably knew more about any given subject, like a piece of legislation, than the government could find out in three months. Still, keeping such hours, it was no wonder the House was ragged, said Mr. Pattullo. The truth of that statement also was apparent to all.

There was all introductory to a debate on unemployment in the future sense which, in its turn, was only introductory to another more hectic debate on unemployment in the past tense. That is to say, we are debating the government's proposals for unemployment relief during the next year, but we have yet to debate its handling of unemployment relief in the last year. The government asks, in effect, for a blank cheque like Premier Bennett's—power to borrow an unlimited sum for unemployment relief. But where the House of Commons took weeks to debate this issue we, being in the dying hours, and desperately anxious to escape from them, took only a few minutes.

Mr. Pattullo made his opposition to the blank cheque quite clear. However, he pointed out the grave historical surrender of Parliament's rights involved in blank government cheques, but said he was not going to allow anyone to say afterwards that he had interfered with unemployment relief measures. Therefore, while thoroughly disagreeing with the bill, he would vote for it.

MR. MANSON ON DEFICITS.

Mr. Manson did not propose to allow the government to get off so easily. He started off on the trail of the government's deficits, and, knowing that it leads into a vast region and unexplored, Mr. Speaker could not see it was in order. Mr. Manson persisted, and made our flesh crawl with his alarming mathematics. He foresaw a deficit of \$8,000,000 for the fiscal year just ended and \$10,000,000 for the next one. Mr. Jones denied everything magnificently. He kept denying it so magnificently, with aggravating little interruptions, that Mr. Manson finally abandoned his usual urbanity and remarked that the House was entitled to expect something better than a schoolboy in the ministry of finance. Mr. Jones denied everything again.

This time Mr. Manson called Mr. Jones a chattering magpie. Mr. Jones still chattered. Mr. Manson would resume his seat until the chattering ceased. Mr. Manson did resume his seat. The chattering ceased, but not for long. Still, Mr. Manson got over his main point, a good one—that we can't go on borrowing at high interest rates indefinitely to pay the ordinary running expenses of government, with no capital assets to show in return.

Mr. McKenzie met Mr. Manson rather completely, however, even if he did try at first to drag up the Columbia by-election, and to accuse Mr. Pattullo of sitting on an Arizona cactus, which made him bob up so continuously. His argument, designed to impale Mr. Manson on a three-pronged fork, was this: 1. The opposition demand a balanced budget. 2. The opposition demands relief for unemployment. 3. The opposition opposes tax increases. Where, then, is unemployment relief to come from except borrowing? The conclusion seemed inevitable.

But Mr. Pearson was equal to the occasion. He denied the third prong of Mr. McKenzie's fork. He came out flatly in favor of a tax on income to pay unemployment relief and said that such costs were the only justification for taxing small incomes. And no one could deny the utter soundness of his contention that it was unsound in the extreme to borrow on long terms for the current cost of unemployment and then leave our children to pay back three dollars in interest and principal for every dollar we spend on our own maintenance now. For, said Mr. Pearson, by the time these loans have been repaid we should probably pass through five depression periods in the ordinary cycle, and how the mushroom growth of debt was to be carried after a while no one could foresee. Altogether it was a bad outlook for the next generation and worse for the one after that.

MR. HINCHLIFFE'S LITTLE SURPRISE.

Just before dinner Mr. Hinchcliffe, for twelve years the astute electoral expert of the Conservative party, brought down the long-heralded, much-fought-over and thoroughly disappointing redistribution bill. This House being human and every man in it concerned, despite all public protestations, with the preservation of his political life, the redistribution bill is by far the most interesting measure of the whole session. You could see sure evidence of this vital personal interest as the House adjourned for dinner. Even that comforting respite was delayed. Instead of going to dinner, hon. members of the opposition, who had no inside advance knowledge, poured over the redistribution bill to see what had happened to their constituencies and to their fondest hopes.

Well, not so much had happened to them. The House was only minus one member altogether and only two Liberal seats had been removed as against one Conservative. Mr. King or Dr. Sutherland are out of Columbia-Revelstoke. Mr. Pearson or Mr. Hanna will have to retire in Nanaimo-Alberni. Dr. Borden or Colonel Lister will try to hold Creston-Nelson. Between such old friends it must have been rather embarrassing. But no one said anything. Everyone took it good naturedly. You would never have known that the government had passed sentence of death against three political lives. But then, that was a small matter compared to the sentence which the electors will pass as soon as they get the chance.

In the evening we passed the supply bill with the usual elephantine resolutions which mean, though their meaning is obscured by ancient ritual, that the budget, for better or worse, is through.

Following up this satisfactory step, Mr. Jones pressed his income tax programme ahead, despite Mr. Pattullo's protest that he was making a full boys liable to taxation if they got a quarter for cutting the neighbor's lawn and thus, in Mr. Pattullo's poetic words, taxing the young before they had ceased to lip.

Mr. Manson was not content with poetry. He wanted action and he moved to make the Lieutenant-Governor pay income tax. He would have moved to abolish the institution of Lieutenant-Governor and Government House altogether, he said, but, alas, these were matters outside our control. He got no support and the Taxation Act and a lot of other acts and a raft of general business were polished off with that liveliness which marks this House in its dying hours.

## M'GAVIN WILL FIGHT POOLEY

Victoria Police Commissioner Says Battle For Control Just Started.

### PROTEST MEETING

VICTORIA, April 9.—Direct intimation that he did not intend to rest quietly under the verdict of the Legislature to abolish the elective form of police commission in Victoria, was given by Commissioner Andrew McGavin in an interview at the conclusion of a short meeting held by himself and Commissioner Mrs. Dorothy North in the police court room this morning.

"If you think this thing is finished you are crazy," he said. "It has only just started."

Commissioner McGavin did not reveal what he intended to do, other than to state that if the newspapers did not print a statement he had read at the meeting of the commission he would publish it in pamphlet form and circulate it throughout the city.

Mrs. North accepted the verdict of the Legislature philosophically.

"I have no regrets," she said, "except in regard to the way this thing was done without giving us a chance to defend ourselves. I do not think it is right to take away the people's franchise."

Commissioner McGavin's statement included a flat denial of the charge of interfering with Magistrate George Jay's judicial orders and an indirect charge that Attorney-General E. H. Pooley was playing the role of dictator.

After the commissioners had been informed by the secretary that Mayor Leeming would not be present, Commissioner McGavin called the meeting to order and asked Mrs. North if she had anything to say about the situation.

She said: "I believe, in the first place, we have tried hard to do the best we can in conduct of the police force."

"The action of the magistrate is childish and I think the attorney-general has gone mad."

"The magistrate says conditions are intolerable because of interference by the commissioners. As far as I am concerned, I have never spoken to the magistrate. As for the charge that Chicago methods have been employed here, it is an outrage for the attorney-general to say such things, especially in view of the fact that everyone knows the police department is operating smoothly and efficiently."

"I certainly can not understand the action that has been taken, and I protest," she concluded.

## TAX COMPUTED FOR DOMESTIC SERVANT

Liable For Living Allowance in Addition to Their Earnings.

VICTORIA, April 9.—Persons employing domestic servants in the province will have a new problem under the Provincial Government's Income Tax Act.

Not only will it be necessary for the employer to make out a monthly return of the wages paid to the domestic, but the amount presumed by the government to be the living allowance of the domestic will also be taxed.

This means that a domestic earning up to \$1000 a year will pay 1 per cent. of the wage plus the living allowance. The tax will be collected by the employer as has been done in the case of the 1 per cent. tax by employers of labor in department stores and other businesses during the past year.

Formerly practically all domestic servants earned under the taxable amount and were thereby exempt. Asked how he would decide the living allowance sum, Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance, said that the government would work that out.



# Nine Vancouver Members In New Redistribution

## Liberals Ask New Jobless Income Tax

Oppose Charging Unemployment Expenditures To Capital Account.

VICTORIA, April 9.—Rather than charge British Columbia's unemployment relief expenditures to capital account, a special tax on all incomes should be imposed to pay the cost each year. That was the alternative urged by the opposition in the Legislature Friday when the "blank cheque" measure of the government was given second reading.

The bill ratifies present and future agreements between province and Dominion, and gives the Lieutenant-Governor-in-council power to borrow necessary sums of money for relief of unemployment.

"The way we are handling this thing is appalling," asserted G. S. Pearson, Liberal of Nanaimo. "Under this long-term borrowing the people of the province will have to pay back two and a half millions for every million dollars spent on relief. And how much of this money goes into the pockets of those who really need it?"

"Unemployment relief should be taxed for every year. The only justification for a levy like the one per cent. tax of this government is that it should be used for this purpose."

### OPPOSES "BLANK CHEQUE."

A. M. Manson, K. C., Liberal of Omineca, condemned the borrowing for unemployment relief on capital account. "What do we get for it," he asked, "in the way of capital? The government should not ask for an unlimited amount like this; it should be in the budget."

"You object to the budget not balancing and to our deficits," retorted Hon. W. A. McKenzie, minister of mines, "and now you are asking us to unbalance it further and have a heavier deficit. I am absolutely opposed to fixing a definite amount for unemployment relief, for the reason that the people would demand that every cent of it be spent. If we had yielded during the past two years to all demands we would have spent about two hundred millions."

The province is becoming more and more dependent on Ottawa, declared T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, so that sooner or later the Federal Government will assume the right to dictate policy.

## Fight Expected Over Mothers' Pensions and Hospital Bills

VICTORIA, April 9.—Two measures which are expected to cause a bitter fight in the Legislature, those providing that municipalities shall bear a part of the cost of mothers' pensions, and of their own patients in government institutions, were brought down by Hon. S. L. Howe, provincial secretary, Friday.

As forecast in the budget, the government sticks to its original plan of having the municipalities share one-half the cost of mothers' pensions allowances and share the cost of each of their patients in government institutions as follows: Tranquille, \$1.35 per day; mental hospitals, 50c a day, and industrial schools, 80c a day.

## Bill Adds To City's Representation In Legislature.

### New Constituency Of Peace River To Be Created.

VICTORIA, April 9.—Vancouver will have nine members in the next Legislature of British Columbia in place of the present eight.

There will be forty-seven in the House compared to forty-eight at present.

Constituencies of Columbia-Alberni and Creston are eliminated through amalgamation.

A new constituency of the Peace River, bounded on the southwest by the summit of the Rockies, will have a representative.

Those are outstanding changes in the redistribution of the province's constituencies are provided in a bill to amend the constitution, brought down in the Legislature Friday by Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, minister of education. They follow exactly the lines announced in The Province some days ago.

Vancouver's constituencies will be Vancouver Centre, with two members; Vancouver Burrard, two members; Vancouver East, two members, and Vancouver Point Grey, three members. The present constituencies of South Vancouver and a small part of Burnaby are included in these.

### BOUNDARY OF CITY CONSTITUENCIES.

Boundaries of the new Vancouver constituencies are:

Vancouver Centre—That section of the city north of False Creek and Terminal avenue and bounded on the east by Victoria drive.

Vancouver Burrard—That section of the city between False Creek and Sixteenth avenue and between Alma road and Victoria drive.

Vancouver East—That section of the city west of Burnaby Municipality from Burrard Inlet to the Fraser River and bounded on the west by Victoria drive from the inlet to Sixteenth avenue and by Fraser avenue from Sixteenth avenue to the river.

Vancouver-Point Grey: that section of the city bounded on the south by the Fraser River, on the north by English Bay, stretching east to Alma road and to Fraser street from Alma road by Sixteenth avenue.

Constituency of Burnaby loses that portion of the city of Vancouver now within the electoral district of Burnaby. It is extended eastward, however, to the Pitt River bridge, to include Port Moody and Coquitlam.

New Westminster takes in Fraser Mills and D. L. 16, between Fraser Mills and the city.

There is no change in North Vancouver.

### DELTA AND FRASER RIVER RIDINGS.

Lulu Island and Sea Island are included in Delta, being shifted from Richmond-Point Grey.

Agassiz and Hope, hitherto included in Yale, are taken into Dewdney.

Chilliwack extends east to Silver Creek, taking in Rosedale.

Victoria city retains its four members.

Nelson and Creston are combined, the new constituency to be known as Nelson.

Alberni is divided between Comox and Nanaimo, and Columbia between Revelstoke and Cranbrook.

There is no change in Prince Rupert nor in Atlin.

There are minor changes only in the constituencies of Roseland-Trail, Grand Forks-Greenwood, North and South Okanagan and Similkameen.

Comox acquires the northern part of Vancouver Island from Kyquyet on the west coast, which was formerly in Alberni.

Cariboo is extended west to take in the interior part of Mackenzie. The Islands constituency loses Gabriola and Valdes islands to Cowichan-Newcastle.

### CRANBROOK EXTENDED NORTH.

Cranbrook is extended north to take in that part of Columbia riding from Spillimacheen south.

Esquimalt and Fernie are unchanged.

Fort George drops a large northern area to the new Peace River, but takes in the Red Pass and other parts of Salmon Arm.

That part of Salmon Arm bounded by the North Thompson goes into Kamloops and Salmon Arm gets the Eagle Creek district to the East.

### YALE'S AREA IS CHANGED.

Yale loses the main line territory from Ashcroft to Lytton, which area goes into Lillooet. The Nicola and Coquihalla valleys virtually make up Yale under the change.

All the West Howe Sound territory goes from Lillooet into Mackenzie. Mackenzie goes south from Jervis Inlet to include Roberts Creek and West Howe Sound.

Skeena loses Telkwa to Omineca. This is the only change in the northern constituencies.

Revelstoke takes in Golden and Field.

Kaslo-Slocan reaches up to the Arrow Lakes to take in Arrowhead, but loses Riordan and Crawford Bay to Nelson.

On Vancouver Island, Esquimalt and Saanich are unchanged.

## POLICE SYSTEMS LIKE A "CANCER"

### Maitland Strongly Condemns Plan of Choosing Commissions.

VICTORIA, April 9.—Outspoken condemnation of the Police Commission system in towns and cities of the province came from Hon. B. L. Maitland, K. C., minister without portfolio, in the Legislature Friday.

Referring to the system as a "cancer," Mr. Maitland compared the election of police commissioners with election of judges in the United States. "It is one thing I am ashamed of in British Columbia," he said. "The system can not be separated from the idea of some sort of political patronage. We feel that commissioners are pressed by this element and that element, and particularly by the lowest element in any city."

"I hope that all the cities of the province will make a study of the new system proposed by the attorney-general for Victoria, and that of all of them the city of Vancouver should make the greatest."

"Under our present system Vancouver could have the finest commission in the world and the public would not believe it. Vancouver's commissions are sometimes good, sometimes bad; sometimes courageous, sometimes weak; sometimes dignified and sometimes the laughing stock of the province and the Dominion. The suggestion that the commission on having political strings pulled at the time, that this party or that party influences it, should be removed for all time."

The amendment which provides that a municipality may, on petition to the government, have its police commission changed to one composed of the mayor, County Court judge and magistrate, was approved on second reading to the Municipal Act. The amendment rose out of the trouble in Victoria, due to alleged interference with police on the part of two police commissioners.

## Appointment of Tory Worker to Compensation Board Is Protested

VICTORIA, April 9.—Strong controversy has arisen in the Conservative party caucus over the proposal to appoint R. J. Hamilton, prominent Conservative worker, to the Workmen's Compensation Board in place of Hugh Gilmour.

Mr. Hamilton's appointment is supported by some Conservatives, but vigorously opposed by others.

Another group is pressing for adoption of the Manitoba system of a permanent chairman with two associates, who would meet as the need arose.

## TWIGG PROBE "SHAMELESS SPECTACLE"

### Harold Brown, Trade Board President, Slams Enquiry.

INVESTIGATION into relief camp expenditure in B. C., carried on recently by a select committee of the Provincial Legislature was "a spectacle of shameless evasion and distortion of the truth," Mr. Harold Brown, president of Vancouver Board of Trade, told members of the Real Estate Exchange at a luncheon in Hotel Georgia at noon Friday.

"I sat in on some of the sessions of the so-called probe," Mr. Brown declared, "and can draw my own conclusions from what I saw and heard. If anyone told the truth they would have been crucified."

Unemployment relief, the major crisis of the present day, must be taken from the realm of politics, the speaker said, and his remarks were greeted with applause.

### DECLARES DIRECT RELIEF HARMFUL.

The present session of the Legislature has not produced a single constructive idea which would contribute to the solution of the economic situation, Mr. Brown charged. He pointed out that when the special committee to receive suggestions met, few appeared before it.

Definite proposals were, however, presented by himself and Mr. Frank C. Brown, chairman of the B. C. division of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

Direct relief and payments by organized charity do no moral good to the community, he continued, and are a degradation of human character.

"We have drained our resources to support these men and when it is all over we will have less than nothing to show for it," he said.

"I have made careful enquiries into all angles of this unemployment situation and have found the most profound tragedy," he continued. "To some of those unemployed, with a fading future and a growing family, the possibility of earning for many years is disappearing."

Mr. Brown believes that the land settlement scheme which he described to the special committee of the Legislature would be of lasting benefit in absorbing thousands of married men and their families and re-establishing them. He deplored charity as a solution.

Cities, he pointed out, can not absorb the surplus population—it must go to the land.

A vote of thanks to the speaker was moved by George I. Legate and seconded by Cyril Tweedale, W. S. McGregor, president of the exchange, was chairman.

## DRUGLESS HEALERS' BILL IS DEFEATED

### Right to Name Examination Board Refused by Large Majority.

VICTORIA, April 9.—Drugless physicians have lost their fight for power to set up their own examining board in British Columbia. By an overwhelming majority the Legislature Friday turned down on second reading the bill which would give them the right to set up a board composed of their own members to decide who could practice drugless healing in the province.

Practically the entire government voted against the measure which was similar in effect to that approved on Thursday for chiropractors. Those who voted in favor of the bill were Messrs. Dick, Loutet, Pattullo, R. Mackenzie, Rutledge, Uphill, King, Pearson and MacPherson.

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## The Fount of Reform

AS soon as it was noised abroad that there was a proposal on foot to amalgamate the provincial ridings of Alberni and Nanaimo, representations were made to the government by the West Coast Fishermen's Association against the plan. We aren't blaming the fishermen for making a protest. Their riding was first on the list of those which it was proposed to extinguish, and they acted promptly in defense of what they conceived to be their interests. The people of other ridings will, no doubt, do the same when occasion arises, and will find it hard to believe that they are not acting in the public interest.

These protests, and others like them, taken singly, are little things, but taken together, they exert a very great influence, and that influence is almost wholly in the wrong direction. There is a widespread desire in British Columbia today for better government, for more economical government, for a dropping of the nonsense of the party game and an attempt at an honest and business-like administration. There is more than a desire. The change is a necessity if we are not to come face to face with disaster. But any change in the right direction is going to tread on somebody's toes. If there is retrenchment, it is going to interfere with somebody's job. If taxes go up, somebody's pay-check is going to suffer.

If there is economy in administration, somebody is going to feel the pinch of economy. So, even when it is trying to do its best, in times of difficulty, the government's ears are assailed by choruses of disapproval. The very people who cry loudly for good government, and believe themselves sincere in crying for it, are among the loudest in their protests when the means taken to provide good government interfere with their business or their pleasures.

How is it possible, under these circumstances, to persuade the members of a government or of a legislature that the demand for good government is not, at bottom, only a sham? If the people who pretend to want a thing, refuse to sacrifice anything in the interests of what they say they want, why should a government take its life in its hands to give it to them?

One of the things British Columbia needs on her way to a saner administration is a smaller, more compact, more business-like Legislature. The new Legislature should not be more than half the size of the present. But we shall have very great difficulty in getting a smaller Legislature if everybody in the province demands representation as at present or on a more extravagant basis. To reform the Legislature, it appears, it will be necessary to begin with the electorate.

## Victoria Seeks Power Like "Blank Cheque" Bill

VICTORIA, April 9.—Important legislation which follows up the Dominion Government's "blank cheque" measure in respect to unemployment, was brought down in the Legislature. The bill introduced by Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance, provides that the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may ratify any agreements for unemployment relief measures between the Dominion and the province and for borrowing of money by the province for this purpose.

It is also provided that such sums as may be deemed necessary may be taken for unemployment from the \$7,000,000 loan bill for general purposes.

## MOTHERS' PENSION BILL IS EXPLAINED

Council to Be Consulted By Government Before Granting New Pension.

VICTORIA, April 9.—Municipalities of British Columbia will have some measure of control over mothers' pensions when they start to pay half their cost, Hon. S. W. Howe, provincial secretary, informed the Legislature Friday. He said that, under his new legislation, a municipal council would be consulted before any pension was granted to a resident within its boundaries. Where there was a dispute between provincial and municipal officials over the domicile of a woman, the issue would be settled by the inspector of municipalities. The original home of the woman, not necessarily her present place of residence, would be regarded as her domicile, and it must pay half the cost.

Small municipalities, with revenue of less than \$5000 a year, would not pay any part of pension costs. All pensions now in existence will be investigated, Mr. Howe said, to make sure they are justified. No woman entitled to pension need fear that it will cease, Mr. Howe declared.

## INCOME TAX ON GOVERNOR URGED

Exemption Is Protested By Manson, Who Decries Entertainment.

VICTORIA, April 9.—A protest against exemption of the Lieutenant-Governor of the province from paying income tax was heard in the Legislature Friday.

"Why, in a time like this, should we consider such an exemption?" asked A. M. Manson, K.C., Liberal of Omineca. "Personally, I can not agree to it for one moment. There might actually be a case where the holder of this esteemed position would be at a considerable advantage through exemption of his income, in addition to the \$10,000 a year from the Dominion Government."

Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance, stated that the cost of entertainment necessary to a Lieutenant-Governor, was a very heavy consideration.

"This is not a time for entertainment," put in Mr. Manson.

"Well, there are not many applicants for the position these days," Mr. Jones said. "Look at Ontario. They have not been able to find one there."

A lieutenant-governor is quite liable to lose money through holding the position, Premier S. F. Tolmie added.

## Lieutenant-Governor To Ratify New Police Bill on Monday

VICTORIA, April 9.—Lieutenant-Governor Johnson will visit the Legislature twice next week to assent to legislation.

On Monday he will appear to ratify the new Police Commission legislation in order that Victoria may immediately scrap its present Police Commission—the so-called North dynasty—and put its police affairs into the hands of the mayor, the magistrate and the County Court judge.

On Tuesday or Wednesday it is hoped the House will have finished all its business and will be ready to hear His Honor's assent to all remaining bills.

## LIBERALS TO CUT LOOSE ON RELIEF

Debate Promises to Be One of Bitterest of Session.

Keen Fight Expected to Include Interest in Moratorium.

VICTORIA, April 9.—Four major issues alone, remain at this week-end, between the Legislature and prorogation. In the early part of the session, any one of them would have been sufficient to hold the House at least two days, but at this stage, in the so-called dying hours, they should all be finished by Tuesday night.

These issues are:  
1—Redistribution.  
2—Unemployment.  
3—The mortgage moratorium.  
4—The fate of the chiropractors' bill.

Of all these, unemployment is expected to prove the most contentious. Probably it will provoke the bitterest debate of the session. H. D. Twigg's unemployment committee will meet on Monday morning to draft its report to the House, but there is no chance of this document being acceptable to the Liberal members of his committee. They unquestionably will refuse to support it and will tell an entirely different story.

READY TO EXPLODE ACCUMULATED WRATH.

Up to now, Liberal members have been barred from discussing unemployment in the House, since it has been before a committee. All their wrath against the government's handling of unemployment has been accumulating for a big explosion when the committee's report is filed.

But perhaps of more vital concern to the unemployed and the taxpayers are the committee's views on the future handling of the unemployment problem. What it will recommend no one knows, but no drastic proposals, such as unemployment insurance, are anticipated, although there is strong support for such a programme, even within the government. The general tenor of the committee's report may be expected to form a commendation of the government and willingness that it carry on as it thinks best.

CHIROPRACTORS' BILL NOT THROUGH YET.

The chiropractors' bill, one of the four large items yet to be disposed of, has by no means weathered its final storm. It passed second reading by one vote, but its opponents are scheming to kill it in committee. If they can all contrive to be present at the proper moment, and if some of the bill's supporters are absent, then the measure certainly will never come out of committee. Both sides are watching this vote carefully and medical men who are fighting the bill, through their colleagues in the House, are in constant attendance at all sittings.

The fate of chiropractic, legally speaking, thus rests with one or two votes, and the odd chances of House attendance. The final decision quite likely will not represent the majority view of the full House, for on such non-partisan measures there is no party discipline, no whips, to ensure a full vote.

## Vancouver Man Given Headlines in London For Criticizing Talkies

By LUKIN JOHNSON

(Representative in London of The Vancouver Daily Province and Associated Southam Newspapers. Copyright.)

LONDON, April 9.—Mr. Solomon Kean of Eighth avenue east, Vancouver, has leapt into the headlines of the Daily Express today because he wrote in vigorous language that he doesn't like the "insufferable class distinction of British talkies," and the "almost unintelligible voices" of British movie actors.

Mr. Kean may not be aware of it—but he has said what millions of English movie fans have been saying for a very long time. That ultra "refined" speech which mars British talkies is exasperating to British people as it is to Canadians—and as for class distinctions in British films, English fans will go a long way towards agreeing with Mr. Kean in that also.

Anyway, Mr. Kean's letter gets a big show and the Express critic says the movie moguls of Wardour Street (London's movie headquarters) would do well to have this letter printed and distributed among all directors working on British productions.

It also gets a brief editorial all to itself, commending the views expressed. Mr. Kean wrote that "the cast of British talkies is invariably divided into two distinct classes. One class is made to speak as if they had an apple core lodged in their throats, while the other class are all made temporary members of the 'blimey' school of pronunciation." He quotes Major Walkem's recent criticisms in the B. C. Legislature against the "unintelligible" British talkies.

Mr. Kean has done a good day's work and has placed millions of English movie fans in his debt.

## CAUCUS MAY ASK CUT IN B. C. CABINET

Reorganization of Government to Be Considered by Conservative Members.

## FAIL TO BREAK PARTY SYSTEM

Sentiment for Coalition Is Still Strong But Without Leadership.

VICTORIA, April 9.—The Conservative caucus is working on various problems which are supposed to be unknown on the outside. It will hold a special meeting before it goes home to consider, not legislative questions, but the problems of the Conservative party. It has already demanded reorganization of the liquor administration under a one-man liquor board. It will probably ask for a reorganization of the cabinet to reduce the size of that body.

### CAN NOT BREAK OLD TIES.

There is a strong sentiment among the more independent-minded Conservatives in favor of an entirely new departure, some form of "national government" by union of all parties to meet the present crisis in provincial affairs. This view even extends to some cabinet ministers.

But without leadership and without a definite programme this movement, which had reached significant proportions a short time ago, seems to have waned. Those who favor it still believe that something of the sort is necessary, that the present situation is intolerable, but they say it is hopeless to try and break the old party system. They fear, as a result, that the next election will yield a House of many independents and possible a stalemate.

### ELECTION NEXT YEAR.

As for an election this year—another big point to be considered by the caucus—that will depend entirely on the outcome of the government's present negotiations for the sale of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway. If they should succeed, no doubt a special session would be called to ratify them, followed by an appeal to the electors. But if they fail, as all previous negotiations have, then the poll will be postponed until 1933. It is on this basis that most members are making their plans, although the opposition will organize to be ready for any sudden emergency.

Redistribution, while unsatisfactory to many, will probably pass without much trouble, since it robs few members of their seats. Members who really wanted to do something about reducing the House to a reasonable size are bitterly disappointed, but they say their project was hopeless. No one wants to give up his seat.

Apparently the only members of the Conservative caucus who are willing to do so are Colonel Fred Lister of Creston and Dr. L. E. Borden of Nelson. Their ridings are merged into one, but which of them will represent the Conservative cause there is not known. For the next four or five years anyway, British Columbia is going to have a House of 47 members, the number which prevailed before 1924 and apparently there is nothing that can be done about it.

On the mortgage moratorium a keen fight is proceeding behind the scenes between those who favor the form of the present government bill and those who want the wartime moratorium on interest as well as principal re-enacted.

### VANCOUVER FIGHTS TO INCLUDE INTEREST.

The mayor of Vancouver is making a struggle for the latter plan and is encouraged by the altering views of some Conservative members. It is considered quite possible that the bill will be amended in committee to include interest as well as principal, all cases being left to the discretion of the courts, as during the war years.

## Suggestions Do Not Agree With Ottawa.

## TRANSIENTS IN OTTAWA FIELD

## Land Settlements and Training Camps for Young Men.

VICTORIA, April 11.—Direct relief as "wasteful and demoralizing in its effects" should be discontinued as far as possible in British Columbia in favor of work.

Clashing, as it does, with the announcement from Ottawa that Canada will be forced to depend solely in the future on direct relief for unemployment, the above recommendation of the Provincial Government's unemployment committee stands out in significance. The committee's report is expected to be brought before the Legislature Tuesday, and one of the bitterest debates of the session is foreseen.

### REPORT SAYS CHARGES ARE UNFOUNDED.

The report is not complete as at present constituted, and important additions are expected before it goes to the House. It cites numerous charges in connection with relief camps which the committee found to be without "basis in fact." The committee "regrets that men in responsible positions should prefer charges of this kind which have no foundation in fact, thereby holding their province up to ridicule in the eyes of their fellow Canadians, and trusts that public opinion will demand that the fair name of this province be protected in future by those responsible.

A national board for unemployment relief is urged by the committee, the board to have the fullest powers to create co-ordination between the Dominion and the provinces and through the latter with the municipalities.

Further outstanding recommendations are:

1—Either the Dominion should accept entire responsibility for unemployed transients who come into British Columbia from other parts of Canada or take steps at once to restrict the flow of such men over the provincial boundary during seasons of unemployment.

2—Land settlement for those who are "land minded" and suited to such a life should be encouraged by making the acquisition of land as reasonable as possible.

3—Young men from 18 to 25 should be placed in camps in agricultural areas and taught to work, to farm, and citizenship.

4—More attention should be given to the question of unemployed women with dependents.

5—Investigation should be made into the position of municipalities with a view to deciding whether their responsibilities and existing unemployment could not be lessened.

### ASK DOMINION TO START PEACE OUTLET.

6—Negotiations should be opened with the Dominion Government with a view to a start on the Peace River outlet to give employment to many men.

7—Moneys payable for relief to regularly-enrolled members of the non-permanent active militia, who are unemployed, should be administered, if so desired, through their respective units.

8—Money and labor expended upon non-revenue-producing works is at present "economically unsound," and an effort should be made to set men to work in trades to which they are trained and accustomed, by enlisting the advice and assistance of heads of industries, and if necessary, advance loans to industries normally employing large numbers of men, to enable these industries to reach export markets.

9—There should be further efforts toward increasing British Columbia's export trade.

10—A provincial advisory council should be created to give their services voluntarily to assist the Dominion Research Board toward expansion of markets.

## Retracts Nothing



—Steffens-Colmer Photo.  
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Monday, April 11, 1932.

# Maj. Brown Refuses To Apologize—Relief Report Is Issued

## City Trade Head Is Grilled at Victoria.

### CLAIMS FUNDS WERE SQUANDERED

#### Enquiry Should Have Been Independent Of Politics.

VICTORIA, April 11.—While the unemployment committee of the Legislature was preparing today to recommend work rather than does for the relief of unemployment, the government had reached the conclusion that direct relief was inevitable. Members of the government said they regretfully agreed with the decision of the federal unemployment conference that the country can not afford large scale public works any longer. It is expected all attempts to carry on the present work programme will end this month, under the decisions of the Ottawa conference.

Apparently there will be no more work apart from that necessary to carry on the government's greatly reduced road maintenance programme. As the unemployment committee is in direct conflict with the decision of the Ottawa conference, this phase of the latter is expected to be a large feature of the unemployment debate in the House today or Tuesday.

VICTORIA, April 11.—Six weeks of investigation into unemployment ended here today with indignant withdrawal of Liberal members of the House unemployment committee and with the reiterated assertion of Maj. Harold Brown, president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, that the enquiry, being political, had proved futile.

Mr. Brown had hardly completed his statement and a demand for non-party government to meet the present economic crisis, before the committee found itself unable to agree on the report which it will submit to the House tonight or Tuesday. A few minutes after the committee went into private session to frame its report, T. D. Pattullo, Liberal leader, emerged to announce that he and his colleagues had withdrawn in protest, since the instructions of the House had not been carried out by the committee.

"Under these conditions," Mr. Pattullo said, "we could not be helpful in framing the report, we did not have the necessary evidence before us to carry out the terms of the House's instructions."

#### BROWN REFUSES TO APOLOGIZE

This morning's session of the committee was the stormiest of its long stormy career. Conservative members, led by Chairman H. D. Twigg, sought to show that Mr. Brown, in his recent public statement attacking the enquiry, had acted without proper knowledge and without attendance at the committee. Mr. Brown, unruffled by long cross-examination, refused to apologize, nor would he give details to support his charge that the enquiry was carefully planned "to distort the truth," but he insisted that the whole atmosphere of the enquiry had justified it.

#### FAVORS NON-PARTY GOVERNMENT

The public, he declared, was not satisfied that all the facts of unemployment expenditures had been revealed. He urged co-operation between the government and an independent commission to consider the present problems of the country or, better still, non-party government, for party government at this time was "dangerous."

No personal implications were intended when he spoke of "shameless evasion and distortion of the truth," Mr. Brown told the committee.

"The personal equation is out of it," he said. "That is my apology to that extent. Nor was there anything political in what I said. I belong to neither party."

There was a flurry at the opening of the meeting when Mr. Pattullo strongly protested against Mr. Brown being sworn in. H. D. Twigg, chairman, explained that he had wired Mr. Brown requesting him to come to Victoria instead of issuing a subpoena. "Notwithstanding that you need not be sworn in," Mr. Brown, declared Mr. Pattullo.

Mr. Twigg—Whether you choose to or not sir, you shall be sworn in.

Starting his evidence, Mr. Brown said he had followed the proceedings of the committee with intense interest and sympathy.

Mr. Twigg—Do you then apologize for your statement?

#### REFUSES TO WITHDRAW STATEMENTS.

Mr. Brown—Not at all. I withdraw nothing. Absolutely not. I referred to the political character of the committee. That side of it I detest, particularly in considering the crisis with which we are faced. I speak as one in a responsible position and I intend to hold to my contentions. I say that in relation to the tragedy that is approaching, the thing is futile. The witnesses called were inadequate and the evidence insufficient.

"He refers to those in charge of the committee who frustrated proper evidence," put in Mr. Pattullo.

Mr. Twigg—You said, according to reports in the press, that the enquiry was costing \$200 a day and that anyone who spoke the truth would be crucified.

Mr. Brown—There has never been a political enquiry where government officials would dare speak the whole truth. Their jobs would be lost and their lives ruined.

Mr. Twigg—Do you suggest that such men as E. D. Johnson, deputy minister of finance, and Patrick Phillip, deputy minister of public works, would not dare to speak the truth?

Mr. Brown—No, I would not say that, but as far as important detail goes there has not been an adequate probe. That is the opinion of the business community at large.

Mr. Pattullo—The chairman wants you to answer what he wants you to say.

Mr. Twigg—Do you suggest that the witnesses called did not speak the truth?

Mr. Brown—No, I object to witnesses not being called before the committee.

#### CLAIMS WITNESSES WERE NOT CALLED.

Asked if he had actually seen any of the proceedings of the committee, Mr. Brown said that he had followed the enquiry closely from transcribed evidence.

Mr. Twigg produced a statement on unemployment submitted by Mr. Brown to the committee. "If you held such an opinion of the proceedings why did you bother submitting this?" asked Mr. Twigg.

"Please do not say that," said Mr. Brown. "As a citizen of the province I realize the great difficulties facing us. I am challenging the political attitude. The enquiry has not satisfied the commercial element of Vancouver that charges of wasteful expenditures for work and relief camps have been cleared up."

When Mr. Brown said he had had transcribed evidence he was asked by Mr. Twigg where he had secured it.

"That is my business, where I got it," replied Mr. Brown.

Mr. Twigg—There were only so many copies. Two of them went to the opposition. Where did you get yours?

Mr. Brown refused to say.

Jack Loutet, Conservative of North Vancouver, asked Mr. Brown if he could name any specific cases of distorted evidence.

Mr. Brown—I decline to go into details. But the evidence submitted to the committee in general has not satisfied the commercial element of the province that there have not been extravagances and wasteful expenditures in connection with unemployment relief.

Mr. Twigg—How do you know this?

#### JOBLESS FUNDS EATEN UP WHOLESALE.

Mr. Brown—I accept what has come to my ears. We do know that funds were eaten up wholesale.

Mr. Twigg—Then you formed your conclusions from gossip.

Mr. Brown—I did not. I do not deal with gossip of any kind.

Mr. Loutet again asked for one specific instance.

"You can not get evidence in a political enquiry which is accurate," Mr. Brown continued. He asked why a Mr. Brian, who was in Victoria for some fifteen or twenty days, was not called. He was timekeeper in a North Okanagan camp. "He could have given information on some vital points."

Mr. Twigg—Name another case.

Mr. Brown—I positively decline to go into details.

Mr. Twigg—Are you sincerely suggesting that you saw all the evidence that came before the committee?

Mr. Brown—I draw my own conclusions from the whole atmosphere of the committee's proceedings. I have been well advised and kept closely in touch with them.

"There never have been wasteful expenditures," asserted Mr. Loutet.

#### STARTLING LACK OF SINCERITY.

Mr. Brown—We are not satisfied on that. There was a startling lack of sincerity in the whole proceedings which have given us a great deal of anxiety in the business community. My ideas are those of the business element in the main. You hear criticisms of the committee bandied about on the streets of Vancouver all day.

"All you need as a sample is what is going on today in the committee," put in Mr. Pattullo.

"You make deliberately untruthful statements to get into the press for your political advantage," Mr. Twigg retorted. "You are behaving like a child of sixteen. The people of British Columbia pay you \$4000 a year."

Mr. Pattullo—We will soon see what the people think about it.

#### NO ONE SATISFIED WITH WORK OF COMMITTEE.

"No one is satisfied with the work of the committee," Mr. Brown asserted.

"Everybody knows it," said Mr. Pattullo.

"You have not given a single fact to justify that belief," Mr. Twigg said to Mr. Brown.

"I am certainly not going to embark on any details," Mr. Brown retorted. He added that the country was running into a grave crisis and it had no scheme for meeting it. People were becoming resentful and desperate.

"We are not getting anywhere and these committees are not helping the situation," he repeated.

"That's a matter of opinion," Mr. Twigg remarked.

"It's the general opinion of the country," said Mr. Brown. He reiterated, in answer to further questions, that he was making no personal charges, nor impugning anyone personally.

#### FAVORS NON-PARTY GOVERNMENT.

"You don't have to answer this if you don't want to," said Mr. Twigg, "but are you one of those who is desirous of doing away with party government?"

"I am," Mr. Brown replied emphatically. "In the crisis facing us I believe party government is dangerous."

"Would you favor government by commission?" Mr. Twigg demanded.

"Not necessarily," Mr. Brown

answered. "But I hope to see co-operation between a commission and the government." He said this was necessary in view of "the impending tragedy we are in sight of now."

"You're not afraid, are you, that the situation is getting a little on your nerves?" asked Mr. Twigg.

"No, my feet are on the ground, but the nervous situation is worse in Vancouver even than it seems to be here," Mr. Brown said. He added that the people should be in a position to co-operate with authority in meeting the present crisis, but this was difficult to achieve when it was generally believed that public funds were being wasted.

Mr. Brown explained that he felt Hon. B. W. Bruhn, minister of public works, had done "magnificent work," but that did not absolve the government from the suggestion that money had been wasted and unduly high prices paid.

"We have no evidence of that," Mr. Twigg insisted.

"We made no search for it," said A. M. Manson, K.C.

Mr. Brown, pressed further, said that Mr. Brian should have been called to give evidence, which he had already given Mr. Brown in his office.

#### TWIGG CLAIMS BRIAN NOT AVAILABLE.

Mr. Twigg explained that the committee had intended to call Mr. Brian, but to have called him at the time originally suggested would have upset the whole continuity of the evidence. But when the committee was ready to hear him, Mr. Brian had not been available. Since then the committee had not been able to get Mr. Brian.

Mr. Manson and Mr. Pattullo retorted that Mr. Brian had remained about the Legislative Buildings ready to be heard for some twenty days.

After further discussion Mr. Brown said he was hopeful the government would eventually decide to allow a commission to advise it on financial matters.

"After the suggestion you have made publicly about public men, would you expect the government to take your suggestion?" Colonel Fred Lister demanded sharply.

Before Mr. Brown could answer, General J. A. Clark, counsel to the committee, demanded who had formed the "careful plan of distorting the truth," as suggested by Mr. Brown in his Vancouver speech.

Mr. Brown said he was not attributing such a plan to the committee nor the government or the committee's counsel, but to "some of the witnesses."

"Then you should name the witnesses," said General Clark, handing Mr. Brown a copy of the committee's transcribed evidence.

"I refuse to name witnesses," Mr. Brown replied.

"Then you are attributing to all the witnesses a careful plan of distorting the truth unless you will exonerate some of them," General Clark insisted. "You decline to exonerate any witnesses."

"You can draw your own conclusions," Mr. Brown replied.

Mr. Twigg read over a list of the numerous witnesses, many of them leaders in various lines of public endeavor, who had been called to advise the committee. Mr. Pattullo retorted that the committee had not called the witnesses needed for the success of the enquiry and had restricted those unfavorable to the government.

"You are trying to crucify Mr. Brown today," Mr. Pattullo affirmed. "Not at all," Mr. Brown objected. "There has been no discourtesy. I am perfectly satisfied. My anxiety is in regard to the crisis itself, in regard as to what on earth is going to happen."

#### BROWN FIRES HOT QUERIES AT TWIGG.

Mr. Brown then asked the right to put some questions of his own to Mr. Twigg.

"Do you consider the enquiry perfect as to details of wasteful expenditures?" he asked.

Mr. Twigg replied that the committee had gone as deeply into these matters as it could.

"I am perfectly satisfied," Mr. Twigg added.

"There has been no extravagance?" Mr. Brown insisted.

"I won't say that," Mr. Twigg answered. "There must be extravagance when you put thousands of men into camps at short notice. The average cost of camps and of feeding the men compares satisfactorily with the cost in lumber and other camps in this province."

Mr. Brown declared that, in view of the present situation a political enquiry was having a very bad effect on the public mind. An enquiry independent of the Legislature would have been far better, he said.

"I have no faith in a political en-



quity," he said.  
"Not either side?" asked J. W. Beatty.  
"Not either side," Mr. Brown agreed. "I know Mr. Pattullo doesn't like that, but I am not a political man at all."  
"You challenge the whole party system?" asked T. H. Kirk.  
"In this crisis," Mr. Brown replied. Mr. Twigg remarked that he had not allowed party feeling to influence him at all in the enquiry.  
"There's no use camouflaging on that," Mr. Manson interjected.  
"That may be the Liberal attitude; it's not mine," said Mr. Twigg.  
"In a political enquiry there are so many difficulties in the way of getting to the core of the matter that it is impossible," Mr. Brown explained. He said it would be impossible to appoint investigators who would serve without personal or political interest. He denied Mr. Loutet's suggestion that these men might be interested indirectly in relation to taxation.  
In the end Mr. Brown retired with this parting shot: "I thank you for your kindness and Mr. Pattullo for his contribution to the humor of the situation." A remark which caused several minutes of laughter and uproar in which Mr. Pattullo's reply could not be distinguished.

## MORATORIUM MAY INCLUDE INTEREST

### Premier Tolmie Promises to Consider Vancouver's Request Today.

VICTORIA, April 12. — Vancouver City Council's request for re-enactment of the wartime moratorium on mortgage principal and interest was promised the government's fullest consideration when J. B. Williams, city solicitor, met Premier Tolmie today.  
Mr. Williams interview also disposed definitely of the rumor which swept the capital today, that the government intended to allow its moratorium bill to die on the order paper of the House unpassed.  
"I have the personal undertaking of the Premier," Mr. Williams said, "that the bill will be considered this afternoon or tonight in the House. The Premier could not go further at this time, but the request of the city of Vancouver for a wider moratorium, along the lines of the wartime legislation, will receive the Premier's personal attention and also, he has asked the attorney-general to consider it in the light of the present bill and of public opinion which has been represented to the Premier as more or less favorable to a wider moratorium."  
It was understood the question of amending the bill to make it include mortgage interest as well as principal was being considered by the Conservative caucus today.

**Safety Valve  
On Costs of  
Government**  
**Control Board to Be Set  
Up Under New Vic-  
toria Measure.**

VICTORIA, April 12.—The government's promised safety valve on government costs—a treasury control board with sweeping powers to curtail departmental expenditures throughout the year—is provided for in a bill given second reading in the Legislature Monday.  
This board will regulate the increase or reduction of authorized expenditures on the basis of revenue throughout the year and prevent over-commitments.

## Log of the House

*The Sorely-tried Spirit of This House Breaks Forth—To Reveal Many Things Suppressed For Long Within an Aching Bosom—To Proclaim the Triumphs of Party Politics—And To Rebuke the Outlanders Who Think Otherwise.*

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

VICTORIA, April 12.—The tortured soul of this Legislature burst its bonds on Monday, welled up in a mighty flood and outpoured itself in what sounded very like tears. All that it has suffered in silence these many weeks became suddenly articulate in a burst of righteous wrath which endured all afternoon. It was impressive. It was enough to melt the coldest heart. It was no mere political speech, no formal protest. It was a veritable ululation against the slings and arrows of an outrageous fortune, and, in general, against anyone who questions the utter competence of this Legislature. It was all that and more, but it was not the one thing which everybody wants just now—it was no help in the great project of getting us home Tuesday night.

Yes, such outbursts, while cheap at the beginning of the session, when weeks are wasted with no business at all, are expensive now. They mean all the difference between getting through and hanging on here in further misery. The back benches, therefore, while proud of their leaders' eloquence, could have wished that they hadn't been quite so long. It was all right for Mr. Maitland to out-Manson Manson, but it brought us no nearer our hearths and those contented electors who are yearning to fold us to their bosoms.

The day started in businesslike fashion as if we should be finished in a few more hours. The Lieutenant-Governor came and assented to the bill abolishing the Victoria Police Commission, so that the famous Joe North dynasty went out in a blaze of official glory with a special gubernatorial appearance all to itself. We got through the bill making municipalities pay for social services in quick time, too. Mr. Loutet voting against his government with an independence which has marked all his behaviour in this House. Whereupon we came to redistribution, and our hearts sank. You can't redistribute, you can't wipe out political lives by a stroke of the pen without trouble. For, while they are forever complaining against them, forever proclaiming their utter, misunderstood misery, hon. members are never willing to give up their political lives.

NO, IT CAN NOT BE REDUCED.

Mr. Hinchliffe brought the redistribution bill in without apology and without explanation. He said simply that the House couldn't be reduced, and that was all there was to it.

Mr. Pattullo was also surprisingly brief in his criticism. He agreed that the House couldn't be too small, lest the country fall into the hands of a civil service bureaucracy, and he boldly proclaimed his faith in party politics, and he said anything else would lead to chaos. That was the start of the day's soul-searching. Everybody wanted to proclaim his faith in party politics. Which was not surprising, since all were the children of them, all depended on party politics for the continued existence of those political lives so unendurable at all times, but so precious in times of crisis.

Anyway, Mr. Pattullo could see no public despair with the party system and he believed that the public, comparatively speaking, was well pleased with his late government, though it naturally had enjoyed many enemies after twelve years. A government, said Mr. Pattullo, admitting the House to the most private deliberations of the late ministry and to a remarkable calculation, made enemies from the day of its birth. As he had said to the late Mr. Sloan, if the seven ministers of the late government had only made one enemy each a day, that would be 2000 a year, or 25,000 militant kickers in his twelve years of office.

A government, indeed, started to go out as soon as it came in. As for the present one, it was merely moving with a record speed, with a "marvelous acceleration." And as for Mr. Pattullo, he saw no difficulty ahead for the next government. All that was needed was someone who knew what to do and had the courage to do it—a simple recipe, but he did not say it was perfectly fitted to carry it out. Still, everybody knew instinctively.

The redistribution bill, said Mr. Pattullo, was a gerrymander. Mr. King, of Columbia, agreed it was a gerrymander, and spoke with the feeling of a man who has no sooner won the riding of Columbia against the full might of the Conservative party than he finds his constituency wiped out, which assuredly would not have happened had Mr. King failed to win it.

Dr. Borden of Nelson went further and, even though he is a loyal Conservative, called it the unfair bill ever introduced in the House, since it wiped out his riding of Nelson, took two seats out of the Kootenays, and increased that intolerable domination of provincial affairs by the Coast districts—strong words from a loyal Conservative, words of revolt surely, but then, the government could afford the loss of a vote or two.

Still, it must have felt a little badly when Colonel Lister, the president of its own caucus, a gallant soldier beloved of everybody in this capital and a straight shooter, denounced the redistribution bill and declared in favor of cutting down the size of the House all along the line, instead of singling out of a few seats for sacrifice.

MR. MAITLAND REBUKES.

These mutterings of independence, of course, could not be tolerated. They were not in accordance with the best practices of party politics. They must be answered and rebuked, and, for this purpose, the government unhesitatingly chose its very best rebuker, Mr. Maitland. Mr. Maitland's speech was more than an answer and a rebuke. It was more like a convulsion of the spirit, a cry of agony in the desert to an unheeding sky. It was a heart-breaking bleat against those who dare to question that system of party politics to which Mr. Maitland is so devoted that he defends it thus, even though it has treated him with singular injustice. But what of that? The system is the thing, not the individual, and Mr. Maitland was eager to worship the juggernaut if it should pass over him the next instant.

Mark you, it was a good speech. It was, people said, the best Mr. Maitland has made. It was partisan only as it defended parties, for it did not defend one more than the other. It was the voice of all party politicians who would like to be able to say these things but lack the eloquence or the courage. It was the voice of party politics, pilloried so long in the market place, fighting back at last, proclaiming that it had done everything worth while that had ever been done in Canada, no less, asserting that it was abler than the C.P.R., the C.N.R. and the banks, and assuring the skeptical electors that all their representatives in this House (all the party men at least, but not the Independents) had always acted solely in the public interest.

Party politics thus found a mighty and convincing voice, a voice which came close to sobs as it pictured the departed glory of those days when party politicians were with honor in the land. As for those who advocated a true to party politics, and especially the editors of this newspaper, Mr. Maitland held them in a magnificent contempt. They just didn't know, and, not knowing, they just derided, derided and insulted the men who labored day and night, not for self but for the public.

Indeed, in the hands of Mr. Maitland, the critical newspapers began to appear responsible for everything, for the entire crisis of these times, almost for the tragedy of this House which, in private, even in cabinet, thinks conditions are getting past endurance, but which, in public, cries peace where there is none.

MR. HANNA IS NOT BLUE.

Anyway, after Mr. Maitland had boldly defied the gods to throw out the present House of party politicians and put in another of non-party ones and see what disaster would follow—after these lofty and poetic ascents it was comforting to come down to Mr. Hanna's simple prose. Mr. Hanna had none of these impassioned defenses to offer for being a party man, or for being in the House. He simply liked politics, a blunt statement which was complete and unanswerable, and even though redistribution put him out of the House, the future looked rosy. Some day, perhaps, he would come back and he would not count the country lost even if he didn't.

This baring of the inmost political soul took nearly the whole afternoon, for Mr. Manson wanted to proclaim his faith in party politics, his perfect willingness to remain outside the mystic ring of the Pattullo Government; and Mr. Hayward wanted to denounce the Redistribution Bill. And again in the evening, when the bill came up in committee, its opponents made a last despairing effort to amend it in committee. Mr. Manson even moved to increase the House to fifty members in order to maintain the old and the new constituencies, but Mr. Hinchliffe said the government had considered the whole problem for a long, long time, and,

like a wise parent, knew what was best for its young. Whereat Mr. King impaled him neatly by remarking that if the government had known for a long time that Columbia was to be abolished it had acted curiously in spending \$20,000 on a recent by-election there. Anyway, the Redistribution Bill went through with scarcely a word of explanation or apology from the government. It went through quietly and rather shamefacedly, with its tail between its legs, since it is less of a bill than a blasted hope, and we went to bed.

## OLD POLICE BOARD DISAPPEARS BY LAW

### Act Establishing New Personnel in Victoria and Elsewhere Signed.

VICTORIA, April 12. — Current amendments to the B. C. Municipal Act, embodying important taxation rights for city councils, and the repeal, in so far as Victoria is concerned, of the present Police Board, became law on Monday, when royal assent to the measure was given by Lieutenant-Governor Hon. J. Fordham Johnson who, attended by his aides from Government House, arrived shortly before 3 o'clock and left immediately after assenting to the bill in the name of His Majesty.

The passage of the act automatically wipes out the present elective Police Board at Victoria and leaves the way open for the immediate appointment of the three-man board along lines used for some years in Ontario and Alberta. The composition of the board is expected to include Mayor Leeming, Magistrate George Jay and one of the two judges in the Victoria County Court area. In a permissive sense, the same system is now open to all B. C. municipalities excepting Vancouver, which operates on a private charter.

## Many Will Pay Last Year's Income Tax Who Were Formerly Exempt

VICTORIA, April 12.—Under the Special Revenue Tax Act given second reading in the Legislature Monday those who did not pay the 1 per cent. universal levy during the past twelve months will be taxed for that period if they are not exempt under the new tax law.

This will be in addition to taxation for the coming year. Those who were exempt during the past twelve months will have to pay their taxes for that time on the new rate announced for 1932 incomes in the budget.

B.C. House

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# B.C. Unable to Reduce House, Declares Hinchliffe

"We Found it Impossible," Explains Minister.

Redistribution Bill Attacked By Up-Country Members.

VICTORIA, April 12.—Upper country members took a parting shot at Vancouver City's "selfishness" as the government's redistribution bill passed second reading on Monday in the Legislature. Two Conservatives, Dr. L. E. Borden, Nelson, and Reginald Hayward, Victoria, opposed it with the Liberals. Col. Fred Lister, Conservative of Creston, also attacked the measure, but he was absent from the House when the vote was taken.

"Vancouver wants everything within themselves," asserted Dr. Borden. "This is the most unfair bill which has ever been committed to the House, Vancouver is largely dependent on the upper country, and the feeling toward the city is not of the best. How I can go back and explain this bill which eliminates my constituency, I do not know. I would not have minded a real reduction, but it seems grossly unfair that, with a net loss to the House of one seat, the Kootenays should lose two."

Col. Lister also claimed that the people wanted a reduction, but that it should have at least been proportionate. And Thomas King, newly elected Liberal member for Columbia, deplored the passing of his historic riding.

## HAVE RIGHT TO MORE.

The country-city feud was deplored by Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., minister without portfolio. "On a purely population basis, Vancouver should have enough members to control the House. I think the city has been most fair. We have had a 50 per cent. increase in population from the time of the last census, and only get one more member."

Mr. Hayward said that Victoria members had offered to take a cut of two from their present representation of four, provided that the others would take a proportional cut. But he thought it would have been better to leave things alone than to reduce the number by only one.

"We found it impossible to cut down the membership of the House," declared Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, minister of education, who brought down the bill.

## VICTORIA HOUSE MAY PROROGUE TONIGHT

VICTORIA, April 12.—By a prodigious feat of legislation, the Legislature hopes to wind up its business tonight and prorogue some time on Wednesday. To do so it must complete its unemployment debate; pass its mortgage moratorium legislation; decide finally on the fate of the chiropractors' bill and consider important amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act which have not even been introduced by the government yet and the exact contents of which are not known. While the winding-up of this business will mark the fastest finish the House has seen within living memory, it can be done if the opposition is agreeable.

## PARTY SYSTEM DEFENDED IN HOUSE

Maitland Declares Men In Public Life Did Most For Canada.

SCORNS GOVERNMENT BY "BIG BUSINESS"

Minister Accuses B. C. Newspapers of Pursuing Unfair Policy.

VICTORIA, April 12.—Both Conservatives and Liberals joined in the Legislature Monday in a bitter condemnation of "the continuous sniping at party government."

They challenged critics to offer an alternative to party government, deplored the attitude taken by many that the system was upheld by "self-seeking thugs" and as much as ridiculed the contention that business men could do better—or as well—as those who have experience in public life.

"Just a dollar and cent psychology, that is what we are down to," asserted Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., minister without portfolio, in a vigorous speech. "The foundation of our Dominion was laid by those who took an interest in party politics and party affairs and who had a love and respect for their party."

## PARTISAN TRAINING.

"The building of the C.P.R., the acquisition of the great Rupert's Land territories of the West; construction of the Grand Trunk—all these things were done by men who had their training in party lines."

"Today in a fit of hysteria certain quarters ask us to scrap the whole system. To those big business men who would show us how to govern, I say that we are running the peoples' business, not that of cold-blooded corporations."

"Take the C.P.R. What would the people say to a government which had built a \$20,000,000 steamship, the Empress of Britain, and launched it on the eve of the depression? And when did the C.N.R. suffer its greatest loss but at that time when they tried to take it out of politics and put a board of business men in advisory control? What of Canada Power & Paper, the greatest swindle ever perpetrated on the public?"

"As for the attitude of the banks of Canada today, God forbid that they should ever sit in power on the treasury benches of our province."

## DERIDED AND INSULTED.

The "unfair attitude" of the B. C. newspapers was condemned. "They want to appease the multitude by turning out political parties and abolishing party lines. But they have yet to offer a single constructive suggestion for an alternative. We are told that all those who are interested in their party have in mind is a little graft, a little job, or self-aggrandizement."

"How many men who write these editorials really know what they are talking about when it comes to constituencies and representatives? It is the fashion to deride and insult members of the Legislature without one word of cheer to them in carrying on during this difficult period."

How many of the critics, he asked, could explain the significance of a single bill passed this session?

"Without party responsibility there would be no responsibility in government at all. We tried non-party government in the province before, and there were just as many charges of graft as now. As for the so-called independents—we have had our experience with the hypocritical Independent Labor members in the former Legislature, who said they would have nothing to do with party lines."

## WHAT DO THEY WANT?

"I would ask a question to critics of government. What is it, what is it, they want in alternative?"

A. M. Manson, K.C., Liberal of Omineca, followed up by claiming that business men should know better than to make sweeping charges against government. He would like to make the editor of The Province the "Mussolini of British Columbia" to see what would happen, he added.

"He would soon have more epithets attached to his name than he ever thought of." The people would save \$40,000 only by cutting the House in half, he said.

"We have had business men in this government and see the fiasco they made of things," said T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, "and we once had non-party government. But we had to restore party government to restore the credit of the province."

## Bill to Make Cities Share Mothers' Pensions Gets Second Reading

VICTORIA, April 12.—The bill which provides that municipalities pay one-half the cost of mothers' pensions passed second reading in the Legislature Monday with Jack Loutet, Conservative of North Vancouver, standing with Liberals in opposition to it. "I claim it is unfair to the municipalities to saddle them with this burden," he said, "when they had no say in setting up the mothers' pensions legislation. The past government certainly gave a poor reception to the municipalities when they made representations on this matter."

## Major Harold Brown Explains Position

FOLLOWING his testimony before the committee investigating unemployment relief, Major Brown, president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, wishes to make the following statement:

"In the light of recent events I wish publicly to pay my respects to the members of the select committee on unemployment and to its able chairman."

"My bitterness was alone directed to the political barrier which prevents the revelations of the true soul and spirit of the country in the terrible crisis which is rapidly intensifying."

"I counsel the government to suspend every vestige of party expediency and take to itself a fusion of able and willing men to consider the financial position of the province and a general scheme of sustentation which will save us from the worst consequences of the present stress amongst a large body of worthy and silently suffering citizens."

"Although it may sound almost like a fairy tale, I should like to say that I have not even half an eye on any possible office, nor have I any self-interest whatever to serve. I am animated solely as a gravely concerned citizen of the province which I love greatly to help in any way I can as far as my limited capacity will allow in attempting a whole-hearted handling of the situation in true communion of spirit and good fellowship."

HAROLD BROWN.

## \$5000 Reward for Radium Discovery In British Columbia

VICTORIA, April 12.—A measure was brought down in the Legislature on Monday which aims to encourage the search for radium in the province. Instead of the government claiming 50 per cent. of radium produced in British Columbia, they will only claim 10 per cent., Hon. W. A. McKenzie, minister of mines explained. The reward of \$5000 for the first discoverer of radium ore in commercial quantities stands.

## Log of the House

*The Dying Day of This Session Proves Strenuous — With the Usual Ramblings-through—And Some Notable Swallowings-up—And a Lot of Strange Work At the Crossroads—But Everything Is Finished at Last in the Old Style.*

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

VICTORIA, April 13.—The old, old miracle, the somewhat threadbare and disreputable miracle, was performed again in the old, old style on Tuesday. All the accumulated business of the session, left until the very last minute, was rammed through so that the House could close, as arranged, today. Business which would have taken weeks earlier in the session disappeared into the hungry maw of a homesick legislature as rapidly and as well-masticated as peanuts into an elephant. Like a tornado swept through the order paper and left it clean of everything but two little bills which the Government had introduced, which no one had understood and which were left to die, unhonored and unsung, on the journals of the House. Add to that some extraordinary goings-on over the chiropractors' bill, some weird divisions and some incredible self-swallowings, and you had a hard-dying day for this fourth session of the Seventeenth Legislature.

There was a brief ray of sunshine as the day opened, to be succeeded by a dismal hour. The ray of sunshine was the distribution of sessional indemnities in neat envelopes to all honorable members, which was taken as a sure sign that, having earned our pay and having no hope of more, we would go home without further delay. This expectation proved sound. The dismal hour which followed was devoted to the debate of the chiropractors' bill by the good, old-fashioned method of waiting until just the right members were present and then springing a vote.

It was not that the House was necessarily against the chiropractors' bill. On the contrary, the House had affirmed its support of the measure on second reading by a formal division. But since then some members had gone home, others were away and three had changed their minds. That is the way things are done in this game. A member absent, one or two changing their minds, and no one can foresee the fate of the largest issue. No one could have foreseen on Tuesday, for instance, that the House would be so divided. It was possible that Mr. Manson would be leading a stout band of Conservatives, and in actual fact, defeating the government. A spectacle to delight the gods indeed.

### MR. DICK GETS HIS REVENGE.

The chiropractors' bill, you must understand, was not a government measure, but it had the support of every cabinet member and the active advocacy of the Prime Minister. But that could not save it against the skillfully-organized group opposing it. The first move to kill it came as soon as the bill reached committee, but it was premature. Mr. Dick, who had supported it before, moved to reject it, because, having witnessed the slaughter of his drugless healers' bill, he was frankly out for a poetic revenge. He got it. But not just then. His motion was put and turned down.

But there were more experienced tacticians than Mr. Dick at work. Their first success came with the appointment of Mr. King of Columbia as chairman of the House in committee. As Mr. Speaker admitted, no one wanted to preside. All the usual chairmen refused to act, since they wanted to vote. Mr. King, being the youngest member, could hardly refuse.

He took the chair and thereby lost his chance of voting for the bill as he had done before. Anyway, Mr. King did very well and it made us feel rather badly that, as his constituency is being wiped out, we shall not see him in the chair very often again.

After the first division reaffirming the bill, its enemies watched its progress through committee with eagle eyes. There were comings and goings. Empty seats filled. It looked as if something were about to happen. All of a sudden it did. Mr. Manson, chief enemy of chiropractors, had taken charge now with a skill bred of years in a government which, in its late years, never knew from one hour to another whether it would spend the night in the House or on the doorstep. Those who are opposed to chiropractors could not have chosen a better leader.

So Mr. Manson moved, as Mr. Dick had done, that the committee rise, which is the parliamentary way of inserting stiletto in the back of any parliamentary measure and which Mr. Twigg said was a violation of all parliamentary decency. Again the House divided. Again Mr. King counted noses and the chiropractors' bill was killed. Who, we asked ourselves, had killed cock robin? Mr. Dick could claim some of the credit, but he had to share it with Capt. Fitzsimmons and Mr. Mitchell. They, indeed, had rendered up a higher kind of devotion by actually voting two different ways in one afternoon—for the bill on the first vote and against it on the second. And the government found itself on the losing side, its entire plan foiled by Mr. Manson, and the entire result of Mr. Justice Murphy's royal commission utterly destroyed. The loss of a desired piece of legislation was bad enough, but to be stood on one's parliamentary head by Mr. Manson, that indeed, was the unkindest cut of all. When the larger issues of the day can be settled by the chance attendance of the House and the changing minds of two or three rural statesmen, there is nothing to be done about it and the government did just that.

### WE MAKE GOOD TIME.

Such a fierce passion has been engendered by the chiropractors' bill, such an animosity between friends and such a curious union between enemies, that no one had much heart for the rest of the afternoon's grift of business, the final grim details of the dying hours. Everybody wanted to go out in the corridors and there crowd over the great victory or say violent things about the slick and odoriferous means of its accomplishment. After that, we fairly raced along through the remaining business of the session and by dinner time the Premier said he was ready to wind it up before dawn and bring the Lieutenant-Governor down for prologation on the morrow.

### THE LAST ATTEMPT FAILS.

So it turned out. In the evening we continued to race along after a last desperate attempt to revive the chiropractors' bill. This was launched by Mr. Twigg who, after another wrangle with Mr. Manson, finally forced the third division of the day, which took a lot of forcing. Once more every man voted according to the faith in him and once more the chiropractors' bill was rejected, this time by a single vote. And once more no one knew what the full House thought of the measure, for never once in its hectic ride through this session has the full House voted on it. Alas, we shall never know the real wishes of the assembly, but such is the fate of bills which do not enjoy the formal backing of the government. They must take their chance and if their friends happen to be away at the critical moment it is just too bad for them.

Anyway, every chiropractor in British Columbia is practicing illegally.

the House has refused to legalize this practice and now, to be logical in their determination to protect public health, those who killed the chiropractors' bill will have to enforce the law as it stands.

These matters being settled by the simple process of making them more unsettled than ever, the House came at last, in the hours of the session's last agonies, to the question of unemployment. By this time of night no one wanted to make long speeches on unemployment. The government was content with whatever vindication it gets in the public eye from the recent investigation and the opposition was content to make a final gesture of disgust.

Mr. Manson made an exhaustive attack on the unemployment enquiry, called it a travesty and urged the government to forget the politics which had bedevilled unemployed administration to date. Mr. King made a fighting denial of profit from unemployment contracts, and after talking in detail of bacon prices and the cost of canned goods, was assured by the government that he was not accused. Mr. Loutet said the Liberals were playing mere politics and had made it impossible to study the real problems of unemployment. Mr. Berry marvelled that the government hadn't made more mistakes. Mr. Pattullo said the enquiry had been a total loss, and in the end, of course, we adopted the unemployment committee's report, endorsed the government and went home to bed tired but relieved, oh, so relieved, that on the morrow we would go home and stay there for another year. Perhaps the electorate shared our feelings.

## COMPENSATION ACT AMENDMENTS MADE

Surplus May Be Distributed  
Among Original Contributors to Fund.

VICTORIA, April 13.—Attorney-General R. H. Pooley brought down in the Legislature Tuesday a series of amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act. The measure was given final reading.

Amendments to the bill were explained at length. One of the most important had to do with the reserve which the board has accumulated.

A reserve had been accumulated, Mr. Pooley explained, which was larger than necessary. It was therefore proposed that, after proper investigation by a qualified actuary, the surplus might be distributed among those who had originally put up the money to give them temporary relief in assessment payments.

Another amendment gives the board power to invest its funds in securities of the Greater Vancouver Water District.

A "careless" employer will be charged with the cost of inspecting his plant.

As to the deficit which piled up in payments by the lumbering class, the assessment had been brought up from 2½ to 9½ per cent. The bill provides that assessments of this class may be spread over a term of years, instead of being taken in one block, to lighten the burden at this time.

If money must be borrowed from one class to make up the deficit of another, for example borrowing from the mining class for the lumbering class—the borrowing class will pay interest on the money loaned.

Employers are supposed to send in their payroll estimates for the year. Some, however, had estimated an amount less than that actually paid out, Mr. Pooley said, and for that reason the bill provides that interest will be charged on the deficient amount.

Mr. Pooley referred to the case of lumbering. Some firms, he declared, were not carrying on with proper safety devices. For this reason there will be a merit rating so that those who have the most accidents will be charged more in relation to others.

## MORATORIUM BILL PASSES IN HOUSE

Applies for Year Except  
Where Shown Mortgagee  
Should Pay.

CRITIZED BY  
BOTH SIDES

William Dick Complains  
Measure Not Wide  
Enough.

VICTORIA, April 13.—In the face of criticism from both sides of the House, the mortgage moratorium bill introduced by Attorney-General R. H. Pooley, passed final reading in the Legislature Tuesday.

The measure covers only principal payments on mortgages, and the moratorium will apply for the coming year in all cases except those where the mortgagee can convince the courts that the mortgagee should pay.

Interest charges must be fully paid up, as well as taxes, to prevent foreclosure.

In the case of a contested mortgage where the sum involved is \$5000 or less, the mortgagee can not be assessed for court costs in excess of \$15. This amount was reduced in an amendment from the originally proposed \$25 maximum costs.

### WOULD LOSE INCOME.

A. M. Manson, K.C., Liberal of Omicameca, urged that consideration should be given to the mortgagee as well as the mortgagor. There were many cases, he said, where people well advanced in years had based their income on mortgage payments. He thought the question of payments should be left at the discretion of the courts.

Representations from forty-three small real estate dealers of Vancouver urging a moratorium on principal payments and property taxes for one year had been received by him, William Dick, Conservative of Vancouver, declared. "But interest should continue to be paid," he urged.

"There are hundreds of taxpayers on the bread line," he continued, "and we are simply going to confiscate property if we pass this bill. I am opposed to it as it stands. It is not wide enough in scope."

### SEEK HIGH INTEREST.

"Loan companies are now asking 8 and 9 per cent, because the government went out and borrowed money at 7 per cent. The mortgage companies ask why should they invest in property when they can get 7 per cent. in government securities at such high rates. Things are getting critical in Vancouver, and it looks as if we are coming to inflation or repudiation."

Mayor A. W. Gray of New Westminster thought it would be good business for the municipalities to spread the balance of taxes owed them by property owners over a period of years. "Any suggestion that would make it easier for us to save the homes of taxpayers in arrears would be welcomed," he said.

Consideration must be given to the question of capital investments in mortgages, Mr. Pooley warned. "We had a moratorium measure in the war and some big overseas firms were driven out for good."

## House Pays Tribute To Member's Father

VICTORIA, April 13.—The Legislature paid a parting tribute on Tuesday to the memory of the late Joseph O. Pearson of Nanaimo, father of

G. S. Pearson, M.L.A., of that city. Premier Tolmie, expressing the sympathy of the Conservative members, said the late Mr. Pearson had been a model citizen of British Columbia. T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, accepted these remarks on behalf of Mr. Pearson, his colleague, with appreciation.

## To Seek Radium Deposits On Quadra Island

VICTORIA, April 13.—Private capital is prepared to develop potential radium deposits on Quadra Island. Hon. W. A. McKenzie, minister of mines, told the Legislature Tuesday. He explained amendments to the Radium Act which are intended to encourage the search for the valuable substance in British Columbia.

## Treasury Board Will Not Cut Down Grants To Municipalities

VICTORIA, April 13.—The treasury control board to be set up by the government will not cut down the statutory municipality grants during the year, the Legislature was assured Tuesday by Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance. He made the statement in reply to a criticism by T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader.

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VICTORIA, Harold B. Vancouver comes under committee on having made committee's procedure "scandalous" report of the committee on health handling of the state which the committee report, adopted Tuesday night, told the truth. Major B. have made this Real Estate Ex last Friday.

### STATEMENTS "QUITE UNWA"

The report as after listening to the defence, has concluded that the statement regarding the committee are quite by the facts, made by him; that if any one would be crucified, untrue, and refers to civil able and extreme these officials a defense.

"Furthermore of the opinion by Mr. Brown as they were made committee's knowledge of committee also refused to give "shameless evasions" or to substantiate SHARP CRITICISM FROM OPPOSITION.

The report cleared the sky was adopted criticism from

"This government beginning to clear T. D. leader, "by plain Dominion."

"They stood in the defence of the committee with a H. D. Twigg, mitter, condemn not having mative suggestion ployment.

### TOLMIE ISSUES CHALLENGE.

"Show me any part of handling unthan we are." Tolmie. "We an emergency the municipal "There ha charges by tment Liberals tures. The immittee was m statements w province a bl Strong critic (Continued



Wednesday, April 13, 1932.

# Maj. Harold Brown Censured In House For His Criticism

Statements On Unemployment Declared to Be Unwarranted.

CLEAN BILL FOR GOVERNMENT

Tolmie Says, Show Me Any Place That Has Done Better.

VICTORIA, April 13.—Major Harold Brown, president of Vancouver Board of Trade, comes under censure of the select committee on unemployment at having made criticisms of the committee's proceedings which were "scandalous and untrue." The report of the committee gave a clear bill of health on the government handling of relief.

The statement of Mr. Brown to which the committee refers in its report, adopted by the Legislature Tuesday night, was that "if anyone told the truth they would be crucified." Major Brown was reported to have made this statement before the Real Estate Exchange in Vancouver last Friday.

STATEMENTS WERE "QUITE UNWARRANTED."

The report says: "Your committee after listening to Mr. Brown's evidence, has come to the conclusion that the statements made by him in regard to the proceedings of the committee are quite unwarranted, either by the facts, or by any explanation made by him; and that his criticism that if any one told the truth they would be crucified, is scandalous and untrue, and so far as it especially refers to civil servants, is unjustifiable and extremely regrettable in that these officials are unable to offer any defense."

"Furthermore, your committee is of the opinion that the remarks made by Mr. Brown are inexcusable in that they were made on the eve of your committee's report and without any knowledge of its contents. Your committee also notes that Mr. Brown refused to give a single instance of 'shameless evasion,' 'distortion of the truth,' or any specific evidence to substantiate his charges."

SHARP CRITICISM FROM OPPOSITION.

The report of the committee which cleared the skirts of the government, was adopted in the face of sharp criticism from the opposition.

"This government tried from the beginning to exculpate itself," declared T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, "by placing the blame on the Dominion."

"They stood self-accused and, realizing that they had lost the confidence of the people, set up this committee with a counsel for defense."

H. D. Twigg, chairman of the committee, condemned the opposition for not having made a single constructive suggestion for relief of unemployment.

TOLMIE ISSUES CHALLENGE.

"Show me one single province, or any part of the continent, that is handling unemployment any better than we are," asserted Premier S. J. Tolmie. "We had to plan work as an emergency, under pressure from the municipalities."

"There have been disgraceful charges by two Dominion Government Liberals about wasteful expenditures. The investigation of the committee was made due to such false statements which had given the province a black eye."

Strong criticism of the committee's (Continued on Page 2, Col. 6.)

treatment of M. H. McGeough, Dominion representative in British Columbia, was part of a last fling of the opposition.

"There was every endeavor to discredit him," declared A. M. Manson, K.C., Liberal of Omineca, "and witnesses were called behind his back. When we asked that he be recalled the committee refused."

Mr. Manson said the enquiry was a travesty; that many witnesses they had asked for had not been called, and the report had been drafted without the Liberal members knowing anything about it.

He told of various cases to prove his allegation that the "politics in the situation smelled to high heaven." One settler he knew had been told that he would be given no work and would be driven out of the country if he didn't join the Conservative Association.

Attorney-General Pooley flatly denied any political influence, and, as a proof of it, said the government had bought large quantities of supplies from a Liberal.

Thomas King, Liberal of Columbia, said he knew Mr. Pooley was referring to him and declared the contracts in question had come from the Federal Government because he had submitted the lowest tender. He made a fighting denial of any profit from unemployment expenditures and Mr. Twigg at once agreed that there had never been any suggestion of anything improper.

Jack Loutet, Conservative, North Vancouver, accused Liberal members of the unemployment committee of seeking to create political propaganda and not to get at the truth. He added that the business men who had appeared before the committee were just as dissatisfied with the opposition as the government and declared the committee had tried to get the real truth regardless of consequences. He said Mr. McGeough had seemed eager to damn the government and "endeavored to give a false impression" in regard to the employment of carpenters at the Deroche camp.

The press had been none too helpful, he said, and by criticizing the Legislature had seriously undermined public confidence. The president of the Vancouver Board of Trade, Major Harold Brown, he continued,

was like any other citizen in that he knew no solution and wanted to kick and condemn the government. "He spoke hurriedly and I think he regrets it."

Stupid charges of Liberals had wasted a great deal of the committee's time, he went on. "The whole thing was an effort on the part of the opposition to do a little muck-raking."

It was an amazing thing to him, said J. W. Berry, Conservative of Delta, that there had not been more mistakes in the construction of relief camps.

"There was no evidence of patronage in the whole proceedings of the committee," he exclaimed, "and I can not find words strong enough to condemn the scandalous suggestions made by certain opponents of the government."

Mr. Pattullo wanted to know by what constructive measures the government had attempted to relieve unemployment.

Even if the \$600,000 spent on relief camps was regarded as a total loss, stated Hon. W. A. McKenzie, minister of mines and labor, it was no more than was lost in the Liberal government's Merville land project.

"In this Dominion," he added, "we have \$12,500,000,000 of a payroll. If we made a tax of 1 per cent. on this total we could create a fund in Canada of \$25,000,000 a year. So the picture may not be so black as painted."

## PREMIER TOLMIE TO TAKE COMPLETE REST

Cabinet Reduction Unlikely—One-man Liquor Board Will Be Arranged.

VICTORIA, April 13.—The Conservative caucus is meeting here today to shape the affairs of the party for the coming year. While its deliberations, of course, are private, it is known that the caucus desires important changes in various departments of government. Its chief demand at the moment is a one-man liquor board, and it also is favorable to a reduction in the size of the cabinet. The liquor board change, it is believed, will be made shortly, but there seems no immediate prospect of any change in the cabinet.

It is the general understanding of members that Premier Tolmie will take a rest after the session in an endeavor to recover his health completely before he considers any questions of cabinet reorganization. Whether he remains permanently in politics will depend entirely on his health, and should he decide finally to retire a convention of the whole party would be called. But for the time being, at least, the situation will remain unchanged.

## Businessmen Will Renew Plea Before Government For Independent Enquiry

VICTORIA, April 13.—That the government will agree to the appointment of a committee of businessmen and others to investigate the whole financial structure of British Columbia, was regarded as certain today, as the cabinet prepared to hear representations on the subject Friday. A businessmen's delegation from Vancouver will meet the cabinet then and urge its plan for an enquiry along the lines of the May Commission in Britain. The government is favorable to this proposal, but will be careful in appointing the commission to see that it represents not only business but the working people of the province as well.

A DELEGATION representing Vancouver Board of Trade, Victoria Chamber of Commerce, Canadian Manufacturers' Association and other business organizations which recently discussed finances with the Provincial Government will wait on the cabinet at Victoria Friday. It will again press for appointment of a commission to study provincial expenditures and receipts.

MR. BROWN EXPLAINS STAND.

Mr. Harold Brown, who recently electrified citizens of British Columbia by the nature of his utterances before the Legislature's committee on unemployment, has explained his position in a letter to Premier Tolmie; he has sent a copy of the statement to Mr. T. D. Pattullo, leader of the opposition. The missive reads:

"In connection with certain statements which I have made quite conscientiously and in connection with which I interviewed the select committee on unemployment in Victoria on April 11, I endeavored to point out while there, that the occasion upon which the statements were made was quite apart from the Board of Trade and represented my personal opinions as a citizen in regard to the

serious situation in which a great mass of the people are now involved.

BOARD NOT COMMITTED.

"It is no way committed the Board of Trade of which I happen to have the honor of being president, and I am particularly anxious to assure you and the members of your cabinet that I was solely influenced by my own intense feeling of the situation and a desire to quicken public opinion to a realization of the absolute need to lay aside political feeling until the crisis has passed, at least."

"The Board of Trade is naturally concerned in the general welfare of the country and realizes very deeply that constitutional governments must be left to use their own judgment with regard to the best possible administration of the country. To this extent, therefore, I wish to make it perfectly clear that the statements made were the expression of personal opinion and that the fact of my being at the head of the Board of Trade in no way involves that body in a general acceptance of my views."

"The Board of Trade with other organizations of the city, is most anxiously concerned in a consideration of the vital subject of unemployment, and may ultimately make constructive recommendations to the government after their present deliberations have been completed."

## CHIROPRACTORS GONE TO "LIMIT"

"We Spent \$25,000, But Cards Stacked Against Us," Says Sturdy.

"Medical men used methods deserving of a better cause to browbeat and intimidate unwilling members of the Legislature to sacrifice personal beliefs in order to defeat the Chiropractic Bill at Victoria and further entrench themselves in an unassailable position," declared Mr. Walter Sturdy, D.C., discussing the rejection of the measure in committee Tuesday.

Further demand for legalization of chiropractic in British Columbia will have to emanate from the public, Mr. Sturdy said. The chiropractors have expended nearly \$25,000 in a campaign to put themselves legally before the public, and can not continue to stand this drain, he said.

"There is disinclination to beggar and impoverish ourselves by expending more money for lawyers and royal commissions, when the cards are definitely stacked against us," he said.

"It will remain for labor organizations and others, and a general uprising of public opinion to ensure the public that their rights will not be fully taken away and that chiropractic may take its place as a recognized agency to help in human ailments."

"We do not desire to remain in the position of bootlegging health, when the Murphy Commission indicated that chiropractic as a profession should be legalized. Apparently the public will have to inform a small clique at Victoria that it can not continue to run the government, a clique that fears to lose a meal ticket on the Workmen's Compensation Board, if the chiropractors are recognized. The clique may have massacred a few chiropractors at Victoria, but it will be the public's own funeral."

Mr. Sturdy declared chiropractors have no battle with drugless healers, as might be inferred from despatches. He insisted chiropractic has a distinct place in social health structure and, regardless of medical men or drugless healers, the commission ruled for its conduct under a properly constituted board.

## The Common Round

By J. BUTTERFIELD

**H**ON. Dr. Maitland has exceeded even his own bright oratorical record in defense of the party system of government. What makes one doubt the real authenticity of his conclusions is that the opposition seem to agree with him. If I were a party politician and the opposition agreed with me I would resign at once as a protest.

The learned minister without portfolio also condemned the attitude of certain newspapers who have very reasonably demanded a revision of the system and asks how many of the men who write the editorials know what they are talking about. I am able to assure this brilliant and rising statesman that they know a very great deal about it. I only wish I knew as much. If I did I would cut a swath in Canadian politics that would make his head swim.

The situation in Victoria alone—to say nothing of the other eight provinces—is ridiculous. We have a province of about 650,000 souls and a great territory. And yet it takes a parliamentary system capable of handling the affairs of a great nation, with a great overhead and a lot of useless pomp, to run the affairs of this small aggregation of people.

They are arbitrarily divided into parties with ancient labels that mean nothing; they are all trying to get something for their own constituencies at the expense of other constituencies. The government men are more successful in this, because they have the majority. The general good of the country under party system is lost sight of.

Dr. Maitland asks with all the youthful fervor that is in him how many of the critics of the system could explain the significance of a single bill that has been passed this session. It is a wise question. I do not believe very many of them could—or if they could they probably would not dare to. For in many instances the things have no significance.

The House at Victoria under the party system is a play-toy parliament in which otherwise sane men attempt to take themselves seriously about something which even they do not understand. The sooner it is revised the better.

The speaker finally asked the critics what they want as an alternative. The answer is simple; they want honesty, simplicity in handling the affairs of the province, a total abolition of patronage, and good government.

If the contesting parties had each a definite and differentiated programme, the case would be different. But they haven't. And the province suffers.

## A Marked Difference

**B**ABE Ruth wasn't the only one who made a home run yesterday. The British Columbia Legislature also crossed the plate. The two events were equally notable. But oh, what a difference in the reception accorded them. In Philadelphia, cheers and shouting, wild enthusiasm, an ovation as to a hero. In British Columbia, no trace of enthusiasm, no cheering except what the liberated legislators did themselves, a depth of gloom and disappointment almost funereal.

Why the difference?

The question is hardly worth asking; the answer is so obvious. Babe Ruth played ball, as he was expected to do. The British Columbia legislators only played politics.

## The Parties in B. C.

**T**HERE is a fable somewhere, or a parable or a fairy tale—or maybe it is one of the stories from the Arabian Nights—which describes with some approach to accuracy a situation which has arisen at Victoria. Two friends sought to compose the differences which had developed between a husband and his wife and when good advice and the ordinary methods of conciliation failed, they decided to resort to a bit of strategy. By a ruse, they brought the man and the woman together. Then one of the friends constituted himself advocate for the wife and the other performed similar service for the husband. The wife's advocate assailed the husband with all the vituperative language at his command, and the husband's advocate replied in kind, making the woman his target. The husband listened for a few minutes, but being a decent fellow, rebelled. He might use violent language toward his wife if he chose, but no one else was going to. Almost at the same instant the wife arose to resent the charges which were being made against her mate. He wasn't as perfect as she had once thought him, but was by no means the terrible monster her advocate was describing. So the two went off arm in arm and lived happily ever after.

Our friends of the two parties at Victoria, we are happy to see, have arisen to strike back at those who are assailing them. They are not exactly husband and wife. But each is the complement of the other in the party system, and that system, which secures them in the enjoyment of their cat-and-dog existence, they are concerned to defend. They may say what they will about one another. Why not? Are they not parties together? But no outsider like a newspaper or a business man can say it and get away with it.

Well, well, it is all right. If we can incense these Conservative and Liberal stalwarts at Victoria to the point where they will stand shoulder to shoulder in defense of the party system, perhaps we can sting them on to the point where they will stand together for something that really matters—the good, for instance, of British Columbia. And that, indeed, has been our aim from the first. If we can persuade the Conservative dog and the Liberal cat to eat from the same dish and occupy the same kennel, instead of demanding all the dishes in the house and chasing and spitting at one another into the wee small hours, perhaps British Columbia will be able to enjoy a square meal now and then and get an occasional night's rest. And that is our ambition. We have an affection for our cat and dog, and are not without admiration for them. They are old family servants. But they must get it out of their heads that they are the family. Otherwise—

It was hinted in the debate on party in the Legislature on Monday that The Province is campaigning for a business men's government or a newspaper government. Nothing could be farther from our mind. Business men are not necessarily adapted to public life or useful in it. And newspapers are organs of criticism, not organs of administration. A business man may have little acquaintance with the viscera of his motor car or his radio. But he knows when the machine is not running. And a newspaper is in the same position. The motor which is the administrative machine of British Columbia is not working properly these days. There is something wrong with the cylinders. The timing is not right. The pull and the

thrust are against one another instead of in unison. There is no rhythm in the movement. There is no proper accomplishment. Every business man and every newspaper and every ratepayer in the province knows there is something wrong. He can hear the knocking, he can scent the oil burning. It has smelled to heaven for weeks. And his pocket-book knows that the fuel consumption is outrageous.

\* \* \*

But every business man and ratepayer and newspaper can't go to Victoria to clean up the mess. There is a crew of motor mechanics there. What

do we keep it for if not for such jobs? The members of the crew are not all incompetents. That is well known. But they are not on the job. They are at the futile game of party politics. They are like men who have received an injection of a drug. They are living in a world of their own and refuse to make contact with realities.

As for the administrative machine, it must be made to go. The politicians have the first opportunity, and have great advantages as well in experience and training. But the opportunity will not wait on them forever.

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**V**ICTORIA, weeks in short recess over several placing taxes which will read of the province ing. The uncut down govern of two cents a the changed in deducted from issued in the p most striking session of the bills were passed. Prorogation usual celebrat Lieutenant - Go legislative char veil of dignity were emptied, papers, bills a were hurried ar from the gall had prepared day as ticker to York skyscape to town. Quartettes w Opposition and strove vainly 2 Kergin, Libera to the occasi parodies inspir the session.

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## Session Ended With Song and Paper Shower

### Seventy Bills Passed By Legislature in Two Months.

VICTORIA, April 13.—After eight weeks in session, broken by a short recess for Easter, the British Columbia Legislature, after passing over several pieces of legislation and placing taxes on the statute books which will reach out to every citizen of the province, prorogued this morning. The unprecedented attempt to cut down government costs, extra tax of two cents a gallon on gasoline and the changed income tax which will be deducted from every wage cheque issued in the province are left as the most striking reminders of the fourth session of the Legislature. Seventy bills were passed.

Prorogation was marked with the usual celebrations. As soon as the Lieutenant-Governor had left the legislative chamber about noon the veil of dignity was cast aside. Desks were emptied, notes of speeches, order papers, bills and wastepaper baskets were hurled around. Paper fluttered from the galleries where pageboys had prepared for the "breaking up" day as ticker tape showered from New York skyscrapers when a hero comes to town.

Quartettes were organized in which Opposition and Conservative members strove vainly for harmony, and H. F. Kergin, Liberal whip, as usual rose to the occasion with a variety of parodies inspired by business during the session.

## PENSIONERS EXEMPT FROM INCOME TAX

### Recipients of War Disabilities, Mothers or Old Age Bonuses Will Not Pay.

VICTORIA, April 13.—Further provincial Income Act exemptions were explained in the Legislature Tuesday by Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance.

Recipients of mothers' pensions, old age pensions, war disability pensions (including Imperial pensions) will be exempt.

Any amount not exceeding 5 per cent. of the income of a taxpayer, which is donated to charity within the province, will be exempted from taxation.

A man or woman whose wife or husband does not reside in Canada will not be allowed the \$500 exemption. This, Mr. Jones explained, was aimed particularly at Orientals whose wives are not in Canada.

## Liberal Members Honor Pattullo

VICTORIA, April 13.—Presentation of a club bag to T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, was made by Liberals of the Legislature Tuesday; a silver desk set was presented to Mrs. Pattullo. Dr. H. C. Wrinch, Liberal of Skeena, did the honors.

## CHIROPRACTOR BILL AGAIN DEFEATED

### Legislature Rejects Bill to Permit Examining Board.

#### LOST BY ONE VOTE

VICTORIA, April 13.—Once again chiropractors have lost their annual fight for the right to set up an examining board of their own in the province.

The bill which would give them this power, and which passed second reading in the House last week, was thrown out by the Legislature Tuesday.

They lost by one vote—the same margin which had approved the bill on second reading. After a bitter fight in the afternoon session which saw the measure killed in committee, H. D. Twigg, Conservative of Victoria, attempted to recommit it in the evening session. The vote on his motion was:

#### HOW HOUSE STOOD.

In favor of recommitting the bill—Messrs. Loutet, Carson, R. MacKenzie, Rutledge, Uphill, King, Gray, Hayward, Twigg, Matland, Jones, Tolmie, Pooley, M. Manson, Cornett, Shelly, Atkinson and Loughheed.

Against recommitting the bill—Messrs. Fitzsimmons, Hanna, MacPherson, Kingston, Berry, Borden, Kirk, Wrinch, Kergin, Sutherland, Pattullo, A. M. Manson, Alward, Heggie, Spencer, Walken, Mitchell, MacNaughton, Schofield and Beatty. The motion was lost by 20 to 19 and the standing in British Columbia is precisely the same as it was before Mr. Justice Murphy made his recommendations included in the bill before the House.

A determined onslaught of opponents of the bill, which had passed second reading by the margin of one vote last week, was signalled when the measure came up in the afternoon session.

#### DICK LEADS ATTACK.

As soon as the House began to consider the bill in committee as a whole William Dick, Conservative, Vancouver, moved that the chairman leave the chair. This would automatically kill the bill. By a vote of twenty-one to sixteen the motion was defeated, and the bill considered clause by clause.

As the House approached the end of the committee A. M. Manson, K.C., Liberal of Omineca, moved a similar motion to that of Mr. Dick. The personnel of the House had changed and the motion carried by twenty to eighteen. J. R. Mitchell, Conservative of Kamloops, and Capt. James Fitzsimmons, Conservative of Kootenai-Slocan, opposed the motion when moved by Mr. Dick and supported it when moved by Mr. Manson.

The second vote, which apparently had killed the measure, was:

In favor of the bill: Messrs. Loutet, Carson, R. MacKenzie, Rutledge, Uphill, Gray, Hayward, Twigg, Matland, Jones, Tolmie, Pooley, Cornett, Shelly, Atkinson, Loughheed and W. A. McKenzie.

#### TWIGG CHARGES CHICANERY.

Against the bill and in favor of Mr. Manson's motion that the chairman leave the chair: Messrs. Fitzsimmons, Hanna, MacPherson, Dick, Kingston, Berry, Borden, Kirk, Wrinch, Kergin, Sutherland, Pattullo, A. M. Manson, Alward, Spencer, Walken, Mitchell, MacNaughton, Schofield and Beatty.

"There has been attempt to jockey this bill out of the House," declared H. D. Twigg, Conservative of Victoria, "and those who are responsible are guilty of chicanery beneath the dignity of any member of this Legislature. At any rate, the chiropractors have handled this bill with far greater decency than the doctors."

## Log of the House

*We Go Home in the Old, Old Way, With Sentiments of Unfeigned Devotion—With a Song From Mr. Manson—And a Blizzard of Papers—And as We Look Back We Realize that Everything Happened as We Had Expected—Contrary to All Expectations.*

#### BY BRUCE HUTCHISON.

VICTORIA, April 14.—Well, for better or for worse, it is over.

Our fitful fever of eight weeks to a day has died down at last, the halls of Parliament are silent and the floor of Parliament is white with the paper debris of dissolution.

Yes, we wound up this session, which was to have been so different from what it was, in the old, old style. We wound it up with giant red carnations in the button-holes of the opposition to indicate its undying revolt against this government, with Mr. Manson's soft tenor singing, as usual, "The Long, Long Trail A-Winding," with a black-board propped up against the wall like a gravestone to record the demise of Columbia, Alberni and Creston.

Our end came quietly, as it always does. All that could be done or said had been done and said up to 2 o'clock in the preceding night. There remained nothing to be done except to receive the Lieutenant-Governor, who came not, as on the opening day, with the clank of swords and the clink of spurs, but with two simple officers, looking rather mournful. The clerk read the list of our seventy-odd seats, making us realize for the first time how much work we had done. The House, through Deputy Speaker Twigg (Mr. Speaker being ill) approached His Majesty with sentiments of unfeigned devotion, in the old style. The Lieutenant-Governor, in the old style also, accepted the benevolence of His Majesty's loyal subjects, thanked them for the supply so generously granted, read a little speech and went away. And then, their labors over, hon. members handed the contents of their desks into the air. Mr. Howe landed a pile of blue books on the head of Mr. Manson, the air was filled with a blizzard of white paper, the House shook hands and the janitors went to work.

And so, at last, we went home, not content with our work, of course (for in this business no one is ever content if he has any intelligence at all) but at least glad to go. We went home to our constituents knowing just how glad they would be to receive us—especially those constituents of Columbia, Revelstoke, Creston, Nelson, Nanaimo and Alberni who, through our efforts, have lost their electoral entitles. We went home and a great peace settled down upon the Legislative Buildings where a tired cabinet prepared to face desks as high with the accumulated business of session time.

And now that it is all over, what manner of thing was this fourth session of the Seventeenth Parliament, perhaps its last? Well, it was exactly according to previous calculations in that it was quite incalculable. It was precisely up to expectations in that it did nothing that anyone had expected. It fulfilled perfectly the ancient law of this place in that it fulfilled no law at all.

It was supposed to be a wild and woolly session, as fourth sessions of any legislature are supposed to be. It was supposed to produce the fiercest rows in modern times since times were bad, members were grumpy, there was plenty of room for complaint, and there might be an election within the year. But, as you have seen, nothing of the sort occurred. This fourth session of the Seventeenth Parliament has been the tamest and dullest within memory. There was constant wangling, much bad temper, but nothing serious, no scandal, no grave allegations, no great surprises.

#### EVEN ORATORY WAS DULL.

There was even a notable lack of oratory. One recalls, indeed, only two speeches which stood out as remarkable in the least, Mr. Manson's address on the budget and Mr. Matland's address on party politics. (Mr. Jones' budget speech, of course, is not classified as a speech but as a matter of business.)

It is hardly probable that the speaking ability of this assembly has

suddenly declined within the space of a year, but there was an instinctive feeling on all sides that oratory was no use on such an occasion, that the public wouldn't appreciate speaking when it demanded action; and that even if we couldn't give it action, we had better not aggravate it by supplying oratory instead. Mr. Pattullo's strategy was sound in the main and a remarkable evidence of self control. Probably he is the first opposition leader who, expecting an early election (as Mr. Pattullo half expects), has not torn a political passion to tatters.

Probably he sensed that the public wasn't in the mood for anything of the sort, that nothing was to be gained politically or otherwise by prolonging the session. It was a fairly long session, but that was certainly not the fault of the opposition. It was assuredly the fault of the government which was even later than most governments in bringing down its business. We didn't begin to do anything worth while, in fact, until about three weeks ago and most of our work was accomplished in the last ten days.

As for the accomplishments of this session, opinions will vary, but after everything else has been forgotten the Jones budget will remain. To Mr. Jones unquestionably, to him personally and individually, goes the lion's share of whatever credit the budget produced. The budget was by no means perfect, most likely it won't balance by a long way and it increases the burden of government on nearly everybody, but even to get as far as he did against the existing odds (and no one on the outside can realize what formidable odds they were) was a remarkable feat for Mr. Jones.

The tragedy of our financial life, indeed, is that Mr. Jones didn't accomplish it about four years ago, that we didn't start to economize until we had spent ourselves into poverty and loaded our children down with debt upon the second and third generation. But still, it was the most notable budget in the modern history of the province, perhaps in any part of its history, for it marked at last a halt in the rise of government expenditure such a vast halt as one had hoped, but notable nevertheless, since every other budget has marked an increase.

#### NOT MUCH ELSE.

Apart from the budget there wasn't much. On the larger economic issues we did nothing, which was in accord with ancient practice, for this Legislature feels its own complete impotence in the face of world conditions. As for unemployment, all we could do was boldly proclaim ourselves against it, on principle, and urge, as a solution, that the country embark on a period of prosperity.

And so the Legislature has gone home. We wonder if it will ever come back again. Assuredly, if there is an election this year (which means if the P.C.U. is sold), it won't come back. No one knows this better than the Legislature. There was an unmistakable touch of mortality over the whole House as it went home, the sorrowful knowledge that it might be parting for the last time, which was all the more sorrowful because, despite the troubles of these days, there is a more friendly feeling between members, a stronger sympathy than ever. In the common crisis, in the common public disrespect for politics, there is a new bond between parties, a feeling that all politicians of all parties must stand together against the common enemy, the spectre of non-party government. We may quarrel over details, we may say hard things about one another, but in defense of our right to say them, in defense of the game itself, we are as one man.

The House was genuinely sorry to bid itself farewell. It knew that, if an election came this year, it would suffer fearful casualties, whatever the result of the poll in terms of party. Indeed, the complete humility of most private members, the utter resignation, the frank admission that they can never be elected again, is quite touching. And as most of them are good fellows, as most of them are just as good fellows as those who will replace them, as this House, by and large, is a cross-section of the entire public, no better, no worse than any House we are likely to get, we are sorry to bid them farewell. But we cheered ourselves up with the thought that most likely our fears were exaggerated, most likely there would be no election, and they would all be back again ten months from now. And this thought plunged us once more into deepest gloom.

### Political Stupidity

**B**EFORE it submitted to prorogation on Tuesday, the Legislature of British Columbia adopted the report of the select committee on unemployment. In the main, that report is of little importance. It will be filed and forgotten. But it contains one clause which is of first importance to the people of British Columbia. That is the clause censuring Major Harold Brown of Vancouver for the statements he made before the Vancouver Real Estate Exchange and later before the committee itself.

Major Brown, in saying his say, and in standing by his guns when challenged, acted the part of a good citizen. In speaking as he did, he was merely giving voice to the thoughts and suspicions which have been turning over and over in the minds of scores of thousands of British Columbia people during the past weeks. Mr. Brown was making public opinion articulate, and in censuring him the members of the committee and the Legislature merely passed a vote of censure on a very large number of their constituents.

This newspaper has criticized the members of the Legislature during the past few weeks for neglecting the province's business to play politics. It would appear from the evidence of this last day's work that the majority of them don't even know the rudiments of their own political game. To pass a vote of censure on the people they expect to vote for them before very long is as fine a piece of political stupidity as one could wish to find. But it is an old saying that whom the gods wish to destroy they first make mad.