

Monday, 15th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Canon *Beanlands*.

Mr. *Semlin* presented a Petition from "The Thompson River Hydraulic Mining Company," for leave to amend Petition for a Private Bill by adding a clause praying for a consolidation and extension of their mining leases of Crown lands.

Ruled out of order.

Mr. *Cotton* presented a Petition from *W. de V. leMaistre* and others, creditors of "The Kootenai Water Supply Company (Foreign)," opposing Private Bill applied for by *William Archer*.

Received. *Ordered* to be printed and referred to the Private Bills Committee.

Mr. *Booth* presented the Eighteenth Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows:

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 15th, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders beg leave to report as follows:—

The preamble of Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver-Nanaimo Railway Transfer Company," proved, and herewith submit the same with amendments.

J. P. BOOTH,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

Mr. *Walkem* presented a Petition from the wholesale and retail druggists of *Victoria*, opposing proposed amendments to the "Pharmacy Act," *re* sale of poisons.

Received and *Ordered* to be printed.

On the motion of Mr. *Sword*, Bill (No. 47) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Municipal Elections Act, 1896,'" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time on Wednesday next.

On the motion of Mr. *Hume*, Private Bill (No. 48) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Bedlington and Nelson Railway Company," was introduced, read a first time, and referred to Railway Committee.

Ordered, That Mr. *Kennedy* be appointed a member of the Public Accounts Committee, in the place of Mr. *Sword*, resigned.

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

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to cause to be laid before the House copies of all correspondence which has passed between his Government and the Government of the Dominion of Canada with reference to the question of the removal of the Indians from the *Songhees Reserve* since the return dated the 11th February, 1897, was presented to this House.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Turner*, seconded by the Hon. Colonel *Baker*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a Supply be granted to Her Majesty, and that this House resolve itself into a Committee on Wednesday next to consider the Resolution.

Mr. *Adams* asked the Hon. the Minister of Mines the following question :—

How often has *Hugh Hunter*, Mining Recorder for the Mining Division of *Similkameen*, got leave of absence during the part of 1896 from the 1st of May till the 31st of December?

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* replied as follows :—

"In so far as I am aware, the Mining Recorder at *Granite Creek* was granted leave of absence once during the period mentioned."

Mr. *Semlin* asked the Hon. the Leader of the Government the following question :—

How soon will the Government inform this House of its railway policy?

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* replied as follows :—

"Expect to do so next week."

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* presented a Return of all applications for coal lands at *Rock Creek* and *White Lake, East Yale*, and also of all correspondence relating thereto.

The Report on Bill (No. 39) intituled "An Act for consolidating in one Act certain Provisions usually inserted in Acts authorising the taking of Lands for Undertakings of a Public Nature," was adopted.

To be read a third time on Wednesday next.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of Bill (No. 43) intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Lunatic Asylums and the Care and Custody of the Insane," was resumed.

Bill read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the West Kootenay Power and Light Company, Limited," was committed, with Mr. *Huff* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Leave to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Revelstoke, Trout Lake and Big Bend Telephone Company, Limited," was committed, with Mr. *Kennedy* in the Chair.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Cassiar Railway," was committed, with Mr. *Williams* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Leave to sit again to-morrow.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented the following Returns :—

Return of all papers and reports from any person or persons, and correspondence between any member of the Government and any other member of the Government, and between any member of the Government and any other person; also a detailed statement of money expended by the Government in connection with the *Quatsino* and *Cape Scott* colonization scheme.

Return of copies of all correspondence between the Government and the Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Station, and between the Government and the Corporation of the *City of Victoria*, relative to the establishment of a residence for the Admiral commanding this station.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:30 o'clock, p. m.

Tuesday, 16th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Canon *Beanlands*.

On the motion of Mr. *Adams*, Bill (No. 40) intituled "An Act relating to the employment of Chinese on works carried on under franchises granted by Private Acts," was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

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

1. Have any payments been made to the late Commissioner to Revise the Statutes since the first of May up to the period of the cancellation of the first Commission, or to the present time?

2. If so, what are the amounts and the dates of such payments?

3. If so, under what authority are such payments made?

4. Has any claim been made by the said late Commissioner, verbally or in writing, for any amount in connection with the completion of the revision?

5. Does the late Commissioner claim that the revision of the Statutes has been completed?

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* replied as follows:—

"1. Yes.

"2. July 3rd, 1896, \$1,000; September 4th, 1896, \$500; January 4th, 1897, \$1,000; February 27th, 1897, \$3,500.

"3. The first three amounts by a vote of the Legislature, and the last under section 4 of the 'Revised Statutes Act, 1895,' and by special warrant issued under authority of an Order in Council dated 27th February, 1897.

"4. No.

"5. I cannot say. They are being revised."

Bill (No. 43) intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Lunatic Asylums and the Care and Custody of the Insane," was committed, with Mr. *Stoddart* in the Chair.

Reported complete with amendments.

To be considered on Thursday next.

Bill (No. 45) intituled "An Act to confirm to the Crown all unrecorded and unappropriated Water and Water-power in the Province, and to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the acquiring of Water Rights and Privileges for ordinary domestic, mining and agricultural purposes, and for making adequate provision for Municipal Water Supply, and for the application of water-power to industrial and mechanical purposes," was read a second time on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Kennedy,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Stoddart,</i>
<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Cotton,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Pooley,</i>
<i>Forster,</i>	<i>Graham,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>
<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Kellie,</i>	<i>Rithet,</i>	<i>Rogers,</i>
<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Mutter,</i>	<i>Adams,</i>	<i>Irving,</i>
<i>Sword,</i>	<i>Helmcken,</i>	<i>Booth,</i>	<i>Braden—25.</i>
<i>Huff,</i>			

NAYS:

Mr. *Walkem*.—1.

To be committed to-morrow.

Mr. *Rithet* presented the Fourth Report from the Railway Committee, as follows :—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
VICTORIA, 16th March, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER :

Your Select Standing Committee on Railways beg leave to report as follows :—

That they have examined and find the preambles proved of the following Bills :—

1. Bill (No. 16), "An Act to amend the 'Vancouver and Lulu Island Railway Act, 1891,'" submitted with amendments.
2. Bill (No. 19), "An Act to amend the 'Cariboo Railway Company's Consolidated Act, 1894,'" submitted with amendments.
3. Bill (No. 25), "An Act to amend the 'Victoria, Vancouver and Westminster Railway Company Act, 1894,'" submitted with amendments.
4. Bill (No. 26), "An Act to amend the 'Delta, New Westminster and Eastern Railway Company Act, 1894,'" submitted with amendments.

R. P. RITHET,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:45 o'clock, p. m.

Wednesday, 17th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Canon *Beanlands*.

Mr. *Helmcken* presented a Petition from "The West Kootenay Land Company, Limited," opposing interference with their lands in *Kootenay District* by Private Bill legislation.

Received and *Ordered* to be printed.

Mr. *Rithet* presented the Fifth Report from the Railway Committee, as follows :—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
17th March, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER :

Your Select Standing Committee on Railways beg leave to report as follows :—

That they have considered and find the preamble proved of Bill (No. 44), "An Act to Incorporate the Nanaimo-Alberni Railway Company," which is submitted with amendments.

R. P. RITHET,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

Major *Mutter* presented the Sixth Report from the Printing Committee, as follows :—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
17th March, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER :

Your Select Standing Committee on Printing beg leave to report as follows :—

That at a meeting of the Committee held on 16th inst., the following papers were presented and ordered to be printed :

1. Return in connection with the Quatsino and Cape Scott colonization scheme.
2. Correspondence *re* Admiral's house.

All of which are respectfully submitted.

J. M. MUTTER,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* presented a Return showing the application of *E. M. Johnson, Esq.* (on behalf of Miss *Davey, of Victoria*), for certain lands near *Grand Forks*, covered by the record of *Ruckle Bros.*, of that place, and also of all correspondence connected therewith.

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* presented a Return giving a detailed statement of all moneys donated to the *Kamloops Fire Company* prior to the incorporation of that town, to whom paid, and details of expenditure, if any.

Mr. *Graham* asked the Hon. the Minister of Mines the following questions:—

By section 39 of the "Mineral Act" free miners are compelled to pay \$5 per acre upon the issuing of a Crown Grant for a mineral claim within the Railway Belt.

1. Has the Provincial authorities any control over this charge?
2. Does this money go into the Provincial or Dominion Treasury?
3. If into the Dominion Treasury, does any agreement or compact exist with the Dominion authorities for the insertion of such a provision in the "Mineral Act"?
4. If such a compact or agreement does exist, what is the nature of it?

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* replied as follows:—

"1. No."

"2. The money is paid to the Dominion Treasury.

"3. Yes.

"4. The agreement in question is published in the Sessional Papers for the year 1890."

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

Is it the intention of the Government to introduce legislation at the present Session for the relief of those municipalities disincorporated by reason of the disfranchisement of the electors thereof by the "Municipal Clauses Act, 1896," and the "Municipal Elections Act, 1896."

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* replied as follows:—

"It is the intention of the Government to ask the House to appoint a special Committee, to which this will be referred, along with other matters affecting municipalities."

On the motion of Mr. *Graham*, Bill (No. 49) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1895,' and amending Act," was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

Pursuant to Order, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, with Mr. *Hunter* in the Chair, to consider the motion "That a Supply be granted to Her Majesty."

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Turner*, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Martin*,—

Resolved,—That a Supply be granted to Her Majesty, and that the Committee rise and report the Resolution.

The Resolution was reported to the House.

Report considered and adopted.

Resolved, That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of Supply.

Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the West Kootenay Power and Light Company, Limited," was again committed.

Progress reported.

Leave to sit again to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Revelstoke, Trout Lake and Big Bend Telephone Company, Limited," was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Cassiar Railway," was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

The following Bills were read a second time and *Ordered* to be committed to-morrow :—

Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Lardeau Railway Company."

Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act to incorporate the East Kootenay Railway Company."

Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act to incorporate the Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern Railway and Navigation Company."

Bill (No. 27) intituled "An Act to incorporate the Stikeen and Teslin Railway, Navigation and Colonization Company."

Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to incorporate the Kaslo and Lardo-Duncan Railway Company."

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented a Return of copies of all correspondence which has passed between the Government and the Government of the Dominion of Canada with reference to the question of the removal of the Indians from the *Songhees Reserve*, since the return dated the 11th February, 1897, was presented to the House.

Mr. *Kennedy* moved that Bill (No. 42) intituled "An Act to further amend the 'Fire Insurance Policy Act, 1893,'" be read a second time now.

Moved by Mr. *Rieth* in amendment, to leave out the word "now" and insert "this day six months."

Amendment negatived.

Bill read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 47) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Municipal Elections Act,'" was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

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

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* presented a Return of a detailed statement in connection with the payment of \$806.85 to the *Western World* for "publishing descriptive matter of British Columbia," giving the dates of each payment, the title of the descriptive article, the date of publishing, and the name of the person or persons to whom the cheques were made payable or the money was paid, and copies of all vouchers in connection therewith.

And then the House adjourned at 5:30 o'clock, p. m.

Thursday, 18th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Canon *Beanlands*.

Mr. *Kennedy* presented a Petition from the *Municipality of New Westminster*, re disfranchisement of householders by the "Municipal Clauses Act."

Received.

Mr. *Booth* presented the Nineteenth Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows :—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 18th, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER :

Your Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders beg leave to report as follows :

That in consequence of Bill No. 45 not yet having passed through the House, your Committee is of the opinion that the time limited for reporting Bills should be extended for one week from the 22nd day of March, instant, and that the Rules of the House should be suspended for that purpose ; and your Committee beg to recommend the same accordingly.

J. P. BOOTH,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended and the Report adopted.

Mr. *Helmcken* moved, seconded by Major *Mutter*,—

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to cause to be laid before the House copies of all documents and correspondence connected with the recent visit of Officer *McKenna* to *Nitinat*, together with a copy of that officer's report thereon.

Withdrawn with leave.

Mr. *Irving* asked the Hon. the Attorney-General the following question :—

Has the Dominion Government any jurisdiction as to fishery matters in the inland waters and non-navigable streams of this Province, and do the Fishery Regulations for British Columbia, unless enacted by the Dominion Parliament, apply to the before-mentioned waters of this Province ?

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* replied as follows :—

“The whole question is now before the Privy Council, in appeal from the Supreme Court of Canada.”

Mr. *McGregor* asked the Hon. the Attorney-General the following question :—

What action does the Government intend to take with reference to the appeal from the recent decision of the Supreme Court *re* the Coal Mines Regulation Act ?

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* replied as follows :—

“The Government intends to appear upon the appeal and contend in favour of the constitutionality of the Act.”

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* presented a Return showing :—

- (1.) The particulars of the various leases held by the “Sayward Mill and Timber Company, Limited.”
- (2.) The amount of annual rental payable under each lease.
- (3.) How much of such rent has been paid, and how much is still owing.
- (4.) Particulars of any other claims the Government have against the said company, and the total amount due the Government.

Bill (No. 14) intituled “An Act to impose certain restrictions upon the granting of Liquor Licences in Rural Districts,” was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 42) intituled “An Act to further amend the ‘Fire Insurance Policy Act, 1893,’ was committed, with Mr. *Forster* in the Chair.

The Committee rose without report.

Bill (No. 40) intituled "An Act relating to the employment of Chinese on works carried on under franchises granted by Private Acts," was read a second time on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

<i>Kennedy,</i>	<i>Huff,</i>	<i>Kellie,</i>	<i>Stoddart,</i>
<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Williams,</i>	<i>Mutter,</i>	<i>Walkem,</i>
<i>Forster,</i>	<i>Senlin,</i>	<i>Helmcken,</i>	<i>Rogers,</i>
<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Cotton,</i>	<i>Adams,</i>	<i>Braden,</i>
<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Graham,</i>	<i>Booth,</i>	<i>McGregor—21.</i>
<i>Sword,</i>			

NAYS :

Messieurs

<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>
<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Rithet,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>Irving—8.</i>

To be committed to-morrow.

The Order for Committee on Bill (No. 47) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Municipal Elections Act,'" was called.

Ordered, That the order for the House to go into Committee of the Whole on the said Bill be discharged, and the Bill referred to a Select Committee consisting of Messrs. *Booth, Helmcken, McGregor, Sword* and *Kidd*, with power to report a Bill to this House; and that the said Committee do, in addition, consider any amendments suggested to either the "Municipal Clauses Act" or the "Municipalities Incorporation Act."

Mr. *Rithet* presented a Petition from the Local Councils of Women of *Vernon* and *Vancouver*, and members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, *re* Curfew By-laws.

Received and referred to the Select Committee appointed to consider amendments to the Municipalities Acts.

The adjourned debate on the following Resolution, moved by Mr. *Cotton* :—

Whereas the development of the agricultural interests would be to the advantage of the Province; and

Whereas the simplification of the titles to land, by facilitating its transfer and enabling a lender to ascertain, at a trifling cost and with absolute certainty, the borrower's title to the security offered, would be of advantage to this industry; and

Whereas, by the Assessment Act as it at present stands, no provision is made by which the assessment of the owner is limited to the amount of his interest in the property, *i. e.*, the value of the equity of redemption, or the assessed value, less the amount of the encumbrances; and the owner of an encumbered property is thus called upon to contribute a larger proportion of taxation than his interest, so limited, would justify; and

Whereas, both as regards the question of simplicity and security of title and the question of relief from inequitable taxation, the solution would benefit most immediately and to the greatest extent the agricultural interest:

This House is of opinion that the Government should give these questions immediate and careful consideration, and should, during the present Session, introduce such legislation as would secure to this interest the benefits set forth.

was resumed, and again adjourned until Monday next.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:50 o'clock, p. m.

Friday, 19th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Canon *Beanlands*.

Mr. *Huff* presented Petitions from the Local Council of Women of *Vernon, Vancouver*, and the Women's Christian Temperance Union of B. C., *re* teaching scientific temperance in public schools.

Received and *Ordered* to be printed.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Eberts*, Bill (No. 50) intituled "An Act for consolidating in one Act certain Provisions usually inserted in Acts with respect to the Constitution of Companies incorporated for carrying on Undertakings of a Public Nature," was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time on Monday next.

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

That an Order of this House be granted for a Return showing the number of town lots sold by the Government in *New Denver* and *Nelson*, giving date of each sale, purchaser's name, amount sold for, amount paid down, balance due, with interest to December 31st, 1896.

Mr. *Walkem* moved, seconded by Mr. *McGregor*,—

That an Order of this House be granted for a Return of all correspondence between the Attorney-General's Department and *John Biggs*, of *Nanaimo*, in connection with the illegal seizure of some cattle by the Sheriff?

Negatived.

Mr. *Williams* asked the Hon. the Premier the following questions:—

1. Did business of the Province require the attendance of the Finance Minister at *London, England*, during the year 1896?
2. If so, what was the nature of such business?
3. Could said business have been attended to by the Hon. *P. G. Vernon*, the Agent-General of this Province? If not, why not?
4. Was the Agent-General competent to transact such business?
5. If Agent-General not competent to transact such business, why is he retained in that position at the expense of this country?
6. How many days at *London* were actually required and occupied by the Finance Minister in attending to the business aforesaid?
7. Has any relation of the Finance Minister an interest in the firm of *Woolston & Beeton*, who received a commission for management of loan authorised by B. C. Loan Act, 1895? And, if so, nature of relationship and interest.

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* replied as follows:—

"1. The Finance Minister was not in *London* in 1896. The business of the Province required his attendance in *London* in 1895; he was telegraphed for by the Government brokers.

"2. Making arrangement for the issue of 1895 loan, and also for the friendly suit in connection with transfer of \$166,313.76 to Consolidated Revenue of the Province, which has since been effected.

"3. Not on this occasion, as in the issue of loans of all Provinces or Colonies the presence of the Finance Minister of the Province or Colony is generally required.

"4. Yes.

"5. To attend to all the important matters that are constantly arising in connection with the Province.

"6. About 97 days in *London*.

"7. No relation of the Finance Minister has any direct or indirect interest of any kind in the firm of *Woolston & Beeton*, and no relation of the Finance Minister received any commission whatever, directly or indirectly, in connection with the loan."

Mr. *Semlin* moved—

The adjournment of this House, for the purpose of discussing the position of the Ministry in reference to the vote of yesterday upon the Bill (No. 40) intituled "An Act relating to the employment of Chinese on works carried on under franchises granted by Private Acts."

After debate, the mover asked leave to withdraw the motion, which was refused on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

<i>Kennedy,</i>	<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Graham,</i>
<i>Forster,</i>	<i>Sword,</i>	<i>Cotton,</i>	<i>Walkem—10.</i>
<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Williams,</i>		

NAYS :

Messieurs

<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Booth,</i>	<i>Rogers,</i>
<i>Huff,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Stoddart,</i>	<i>Hunter,</i>
<i>Smith,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Irving,</i>
<i>Kellie,</i>	<i>Rithel,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>Braden,</i>
<i>Mutter,</i>	<i>Adams,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>	<i>McGregor—20.</i>

Motion negatived.

Bill (No. 45) intituled "An Act to confirm to the Crown all unrecorded and unappropriated Water and Water-power in the Province, and to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the acquiring of Water Rights and Privileges for ordinary domestic, mining and agricultural purposes, and for making adequate provision for Municipal Water Supply, and for the application of water-power to industrial and mechanical purposes," was committed, with Mr. *Walkem* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again on Monday next.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 5:30 o'clock, p. m.

Monday, 22nd March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *R. W. Trotter*.

The following papers were presented:—

By the Hon. Colonel *Baker*—The Annual Report of the Minister of Mines for the year ending 31st December, 1896.

By the Hon. Mr. *Turner*—A Return giving a detailed statement of the travelling expenses of Ministers on duty, together with a statement of any advances made in connection therewith; the dates thereof; such Return embracing a period between June 30th, 1896, and 31st December, 1896.

By the Hon. Mr. *Martin*—A Return of copies of all correspondence regarding Mr. *J. W. Rudd's* claim to record a pre-emption on the north half of the north half of section 7, *Mayne Island*. Also, copies of all correspondence regarding issuance of a certificate of improvement to *W. T. Collinson* on said land.

Mr. *Kennedy* presented Petitions from the Local Council of Women of *Victoria*, the Local Council of Women of *Vernon*, and the Women's Christian Temperance Union, *re* closing shops and places of business on Sunday.

Received and *Ordered* to be printed.

Major *Mutter* presented the Seventh Report from the Printing Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
22nd March, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER :

Your Select Standing Committee on Printing beg leave to report as follows:—

That your Committee met on Friday, the 19th inst., when the following Returns were submitted and ordered to be printed:—

1. Correspondence *re* purchase of parcel land by Miss Davey.
2. Correspondence, Sayward Mill and Timber Company.
3. Payments, Kamloops Fire Company.
4. Correspondence, Songhees Reserve.

All of which are respectfully submitted.

J. M. MUTTER,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

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

That a Select Committee, consisting of Messrs. *McGregor*, *Bryden*, *Braden*, *Williams* and the mover, be appointed to inquire into and report upon the management of the estate of the late *G. H. Blakeway* by *J. P. Planta*, Esq., Official Administrator for *Nanaimo District*, with power to call for persons and papers.

Mr. *Graham* moved, seconded by Mr. *Cotton*,—

That letters numbered 1 to 12, inclusive, in the Return presented March 15th, referring to coal lands at *Rock Creek*, *Osoyoos District*, be produced and printed.

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* moved in amendment,—

To strike out all the words after "That" to "referring," in the first line, and that the words "all the correspondence" be inserted in lieu thereof.

Amendment put and carried.

Question, as amended, put and carried.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Turner*, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Eberts*, it was *Resolved*,—

That this House will, at its next sitting, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the Ways and Means for raising the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

Mr. *Rithet* presented the Sixth Report from the Railway Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 22nd, 1897

MR. SPEAKER :

Your Select Standing Committee on Railways beg leave to report as follows:—

That the Standing Orders be suspended, and that your Committee respectfully beg to recommend that the time for reporting Bills to the House be extended one week from to-day

R. P. RITHEP,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended and the Report adopted.

Mr. *Rieth* asked the Hon. the Premier the following question :—

Has the Government any information regarding a reported change of route by way of the *Cape of Good Hope*, instead of by way of the *Pacific Ocean, British Columbia*, and the *Dominion of Canada*, for the proposed all through British cable line between *Australia* and *Great Britain*?

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* replied as follows :—

“No; the Government has no information on the subject.”

Mr. *Kellie* asked the Hon. the Provincial Secretary the following question :—

What steps, if any, have been taken in relation to the Resolution of this Honourable House passed on the 9th of April, 1896: “That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting that the Dominion Government be at once apprised of the necessity of placing the *Yukon* country under more effective governmental control”?

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* replied as follows :—

“The Resolution referred to was duly transmitted to the Honourable the Secretary of State, and the reply of the Federal Government thereto is published in the Sessional Papers for the year 1896.”

Mr. *Hume* asked the Hon. the Premier the following question :—

What amounts have the C. P. R. contributed towards street and sewer improvements in *Nelson*?

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* replied as follows :—

“The Government has no information as to any amount being contributed by the C. P. R.”

Bill (No. 45) intituled “An Act to confirm to the Crown all unrecorded and unappropriated Water and Water-power in the Province, and to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the acquiring of Water Rights and Privileges for ordinary domestic, mining and agricultural purposes, and for making adequate provision for Municipal Water Supply, and for the application of water-power to industrial and mechanical purposes,” was again committed, with Mr. *Walkem* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented a Return of copies of all correspondence between the Government or any member thereof and any other person or persons, in relation to the proposed appointment of Mr. *T. P. Reid* as Provincial Constable, etc., at the *150-Mile House*.

Bill (No. 10) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the West Kootenay Power and Light Company, Limited,” was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 22) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the East Kootenay Railway Company,” was committed, with Mr. *Kennedy* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 18) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Revelstoke, Trout Lake and Big Bend Telephone Company, Limited,” was read a third time and passed.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:30 o'clock, p. m.

Tuesday, 23rd March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *R. W. Trotter*.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented a Return of copies of all letters, petitions, or other correspondence between the Government, or any member of the same, and any person or persons, in reference to the retention or dismissal of Mr. *Hunter*, constable, &c., in the *Granite Creek* and *Nicola* country.

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* presented a Return of copies of all correspondence *re* the granting of power to run trains on the *Columbia and Western Railway* and the *Red Mountain Railway*.

Mr. *Williams* presented a Petition from *G. A. Morphy* and many others, residents of *Kaslo*, opposing passage of Private Bill to incorporate the "Kootenay Electric Company."

Received and *Ordered* to be printed.

Bill (No. 45) intituled "An Act to confirm to the Crown all unrecorded and unappropriated Water and Water-power in the Province, and to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the acquiring of Water Rights and Privileges for ordinary domestic, mining and agricultural purposes, and for making adequate provision for Municipal Water Supply, and for the application of water-power to industrial and mechanical purposes," was again committed, with Mr. *Walkem* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented the Report of the Agent-General for the Province of British Columbia for the year 1896.

Mr. *Booth* presented the Twentieth Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 23rd, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders beg leave to report as follows:—

The preamble proved of Bill (No. 38) intituled "An Act respecting the Cottonwood River (B. C.) Alluvial Gold Mining Company, Limited (Foreign)," and submit the same herewith with amendments.

The preamble not proved of Bill (No. 30) intituled "An Act respecting the Consolidation of the Thompson River Hydraulic Mining Company."

J. P. BOOTH,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

Order called to consider the Report on Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Cassiar Railway."

Mr. *Sword* moved, seconded by Mr. *Kidd*,—

That the Order be discharged and the Bill recommitted, for the purpose of considering the insertion of the following as a new clause:—

" . The Company shall, within three months after the passage of this Act, deposit with the Provincial Government the sum of \$3,000 as security that the Company will expend not less than \$6,000 in actual construction of the railway hereby authorised to be built before the 31st December, 1900, and in default thereof the said sum of \$3,000 shall be forfeited to and become the property of the Government as liquidated and ascertained damages, and not as a penalty."

Negatived on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

<i>Kennedy,</i>	<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Stoddart,</i>
<i>Forster,</i>	<i>Sword,</i>	<i>Cotton,</i>	<i>Walkem,</i>
<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Williams,</i>	<i>Graham,</i>	<i>McGregor—12.</i>

NAYS :

Messieurs

<i>Smith,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Adams,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>
<i>Kellie,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Booth,</i>	<i>Rogers,</i>
<i>Mutter,</i>	<i>Martin.</i>	<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Huff,</i>
<i>Helmcken,</i>	<i>Rilhet,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>Irving—16.</i>

Report adopted.

On the motion to read the Bill a third time, a debate arose, which was adjourned until Monday next.

Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the East Kootenay Railway Company," was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The Order for the second reading of Bill (No. 41) intituled "An Act to further amend the 'Pharmacy Act, 1891,'" was discharged.

Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the West Kootenay Power and Light Company, Limited," was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:50 o'clock, p. m.

Wednesday, 24th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *R. W. Trotter.*

Mr. *Helmcken* presented a Petition from 2,411 women of the Province, asking for legislation granting full franchise to women.

Received and *Ordered* to be printed.

On the motion of Mr. *Sword*, seconded by Mr. *Forster*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to lay before the House copies of all correspondence, petitions, &c., between the *Sumas* Dyking Commissioners, or any other persons, and his Government, or any member thereof, in relation to the *Sumas* dyking; such Return to cover the period between 1st January, 1894, and date.

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

1. Did the Attorney-General hold a brief on behalf of the Province before the Privy Council *re* precious metals in Island Railway lands?
2. How many days were occupied at hearing before Privy Council?
3. Who acted as counsel in above matter for the Province, and when engaged?
4. What fees (if any) were paid to English counsel and solicitors herein?

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* replied as follows:—

- “1. Yes.
- “2. One day in hearing, July 9th, 1896.
- “3. Mr. *Bigham*, Q. C., and Mr. *C. A. Russell* were retained for the preparation of the respondent's case, as senior and junior counsel respectively, on the 16th and 11th May, 1896, and were briefed for the argument of the case on July 2nd, 1896.
- “4. Counsel and solicitors' fees amounted to £340 10s. 8d., but of this £254 8s. 8d. were taxed and refunded.”

Mr. *Graham* asked the Hon. the Premier the following questions:—

1. Was the right to purchase pastoral lands intentionally omitted from the Act granting aid to the *Columbia and Western Railway*?
2. If not intentional, does the Government intend to take any steps to place pastoral lands on the same footing as agricultural land?

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* replied as follows:—

- “1. It evidently was.
- “2. No.”

Mr. *Williams* asked the Hon. the Premier the following questions:—

1. Has the *Columbia and Western Railway Company* deposited with the Provincial Government security, in compliance with section 3 of “*Columbia and Western Railway Subsidy Act, 1896*”?
2. If so, when was said security deposited?
3. Nature of the security (if any)?
4. If by bond, names and address of bondsmen?
5. Condition of bond, if any?

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* replied as follows:—

- “1. Yes.
- “2. 14th October, 1896.
- “3. Bond.
- “4. *August F. Heinze, Trail, B. C.*
- “5. To be supplanted by \$75,000 of first mortgage bonds of the Railway Company, as soon as issued.”

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

How many of those delinquent taxpayers whose properties were advertised for sale at last sale for taxes in *New Westminster District* received rebates?

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* replied as follows:—

“Nine.”

Mr. *Walkem* asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance the following question:—

What were the railway and steamer expenses of individual Ministers for the six months ending 31st December, 1896?

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* replied as follows:—

“I can give no fuller information than that supplied by a Return to an Order of the House of the travelling expenses of Ministers, which was presented to the House on 22nd inst.”

Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the East Kootenay Railway Company," was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again on Monday next.

Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the West Kootenay Power and Light Company, Limited," was again committed.

Bill reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered on Monday next.

Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern Railway and Navigation Company," was committed, with Mr. *Smith* in the Chair.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Lardeau Railway Company," was committed, with Mr. *McGregor* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Kaslo and Lardo-Duncan Railway Company," was committed, with Mr. *Kidd* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 44) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Nanaimo-Alberni Railway Company," was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* presented the Annual Report of the Curator of the Provincial Museum.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:55 o'clock, p. m.

Thursday, 25th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *R. W. Trotter*.

Major *Mutter* presented the Eighth Report from the Printing Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
25th March, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Printing beg leave to report as follows:—

That your Committee met this 25th day of March in the Committee Room, when the following papers were submitted and ordered to be printed, viz.:

1. Correspondence *re* coal lands, Osoyoos, ordered to be printed by the House.
2. Correspondence, Columbia and Western Railway, and the Red Mountain Railway.

3. Correspondence *re* Mr. T. P. Reid, as Provincial Constable, &c., at 150-Mile House.

4. Return, Ministers' travelling expenses between 30th June, 1896, and 31st December, 1896.

All of which are respectfully submitted.

J. M. MUTTER,
Chairman of Committee.

The Report was received.

Mr. *Rithet* presented the Seventh Report from the Railway Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 25th, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER :

Your Select Standing Committee on Railways beg leave to report as follows:—

That they have examined and find the preamble proved—

1. Bill (No. 46), "An Act to authorise the Yukon Mining, Trading and Transportation Company (Foreign) to construct a line of Railway from the head of Steamboat Navigation on Taku Inlet to Teslin Lake," submitted with amendments ;

2. Bill (No. 48), "An Act to Incorporate the Bedlington and Nelson Railway Company," submitted with amendments ;

3. Bill (No. 20), "An Act to Incorporate the Barkerville, Ashcroft and Cariboo Railway," submitted with amendments.

R. P. RITHET,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of any correspondence regarding the employment of Mr. *W. Ridgeway Wilson* to give an estimate on an extension required on the Lunatic Asylum building at *New Westminster*.

Bill (No. 40) intituled "An Act relating to the employment of Chinese on works carried on under franchises granted by Private Acts," was committed, with Major *Mutter* in the Chair.

Reported complete with amendments.

To be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 49) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1895,' and amending Act," was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

The adjourned debate on the motion moved by Mr. *Walkem*, as follows:—

That in the opinion of this House a tax upon mortgages is one which bears unduly upon different members of a community—

was resumed, and resolved in the affirmative on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

Macpherson,
Kennedy,
Hume,
Kidd,
Sword,

Williams,
Semlin,
Graham,
Mutter,
Helincken,

Baker,
Adams,
Booth,
Walkem,
Pooley,

Eberts,
Rogers,
Huff,
Braden,
McGregor—20.

NAYS :

Messieurs

Turner,

Martin,

Rithet,

Stoddart—4.

Bill (No. 45) intituled "An Act to confirm to the Crown all unrecorded and unappropriated Water and Water-power in the Province, and to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the acquiring of Water Rights and Privileges for ordinary domestic, mining and agricultural purposes, and for making adequate provision for Municipal Water Supply, and for the application of water-power to industrial and mechanical purposes," was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:50 o'clock, p. m.

Friday, 26th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Stackhouse*.

Mr. *Booth* presented a Petition from *H. C. Beeton, E. E. Billinghamurst*, and others, for leave to present a Petition for leave to introduce a Private Bill to incorporate a Company *re Lynn Canal Railway*.

The Petition was not received.

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* presented a Return showing:—

(1.) The total number of acres of land conveyed or alienated, or in process of conveyance or alienation, under chap. 14 of the Island Railway Act of 1884, and under all other railway aid or land grant Acts since that date:

(2.) Total number of acres now under reserve for the purpose or with the object of being conveyed or alienated under any such Act.

Mr. *Booth* presented the Twenty-first Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 26th, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders beg leave to report as follows:—

That on account of Bill No. 45 not yet having passed through the House, your Committee is of the opinion that the time limited for reporting on Private Bills should be extended for one week from the 29th day of March, instant, and that the Standing Rules should be suspended therefor, and your Committee recommend the same accordingly.

J. P. BOOTH,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended and the Report adopted.

Mr. *Williams* asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:—

1. What method is adopted by the Government for ascertaining the quantity of timber cut subject to royalty?

2. What method is adopted for ascertaining quantity of lumber exported upon which rebate granted?

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* replied as follows :—

“1. Returns are made by mill-owners and other purchasers of timber, as provided by section 75 of the ‘Land Act.’ These returns are checked by the Provincial Timber Inspector and compared with information gathered by the Forest Ranger from all persons who cut and sell timber, and from other sources. Persons who cut timber from private property must obtain a certificate from the Timber Inspector before the mills will settle with them.

“2. Returns are made showing the name of the ship or number of the car, the amount of timber and its destination, and these are checked by comparison with the bills of lading and shipping receipts.”

The Report on Bill (No. 43) intituled “An Act to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Lunatic Asylums and the Care and Custody of the Insane,” was considered.

Mr. *Walkem* moved—To add to section 10, after “7,” the words “nor the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital for Insane in which the patient is detained.”

Carried.

Mr. *Walkem* moved—That section 40 be struck out, and the following inserted in lieu thereof:—

“40. When a lunatic sent to any Public Hospital for Insane is under the age of twenty-one years, and has a father or a mother able to pay for his maintenance, or a guardian or committee, it shall be the duty of the Medical Superintendent to send a copy of the order and certificates, attested under his hand and that of the Clerk of such Public Hospital for Insane, to the father or mother, guardian or committee (as the case may be) of the lunatic, to which copy the said Medical Superintendent and Clerk shall subscribe a certificate of the admission of the lunatic, and of the amount which will become due for him each month to the Hospital, by the regulations of the Hospital for Insane made in that behalf, and the Medical Superintendent shall at once render an account to the father, mother, guardian or committee (as the case may be) so liable for the maintenance and clothing of the patient, from the date of his admission into such Hospital for Insane; and such person or persons shall be notified that the patient will be made a private patient, and that he or they must provide a bond in Form M in the Schedule to this Act, for the future maintenance of the patient in the Hospital for Insane.”

Carried.

Mr. *Williams* moved—

That in section 41, lines 3 and 4, the words “father or mother, husband, wife, guardian or committee (as the case may be) of such patient” be erased, and the following words substituted therefor: “person, guardian or committee liable to pay for such patient’s maintenance.”

That in section 42, lines 6 and 7, the words “father or mother, husband or wife of the patient” be erased, and the following words substituted therefor: “person liable to pay for such patient’s maintenance.”

Carried.

Report, as amended, adopted.

To be read a third time to-morrow.

Bill No. (45) intituled “An Act to confirm to the Crown all unrecorded and unappropriated Water and Water-power in the Province, and to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the acquiring of Water Rights and Privileges for ordinary domestic, mining and agricultural purposes, and for making adequate provision for Municipal Water Supply, and for the application of water-power to industrial and mechanical purposes,” was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 8) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Lardeau Railway Company,” was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 44) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Nanaimo-Alberni Railway Company," was committed, with Mr. *Rogers* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 27) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Stikeen and Teslin Railway, Navigation and Colonization Company," was committed, with Mr. *Sword* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Kaslo and Lardo-Duncan Railway Company," was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The following Bills were read a second time and *Ordered* to be committed to-morrow :—

Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver-Nanaimo Railway Transfer Company."

Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Vancouver and Lulu Island Railway Act, 1891.'"

Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to amend the Cariboo Railway Company's Consolidated Act, 1894."

Bill (No. 14) intituled "An Act to impose certain restrictions upon the granting of Liquor Licences in Rural Districts," was committed, with Mr. *Cotton* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, signed by His Honour.

The said Message was read by Mr. Speaker, and is as follows :—

E. DEWDNEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits Estimates of sums required for the service of the Province for the financial year ending 30th June, 1898, and in accordance with the provisions of "The British North America Act, 1867," he recommends these Estimates to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,

26th March, 1897.

Ordered, That the said Message, and the Estimates accompanying the same, be referred to the Committee of Supply on Tuesday next.

The Report on Bill (No. 40) intituled "An Act relating to the employment of Chinese on works carried on under franchises granted by Private Acts," was adopted.

To be read a third time on Monday next.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock on Monday next.

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

Monday, 29th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *W. D. Barber*.

Major *Mutter* presented the Ninth Report from the Printing Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
29th March, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER :

Your Select Standing Committee on Printing beg leave to report as follows:—

That the following papers were submitted :

1. Return, number of acres land conveyed or alienated, &c., under chap. 14, Island Rail way, 1884, &c.

2. Report of the Curator of the Provincial Museum.

3. Report of Agent-General.

The above were ordered to be printed.

At the meeting of Committee held on the 25th inst., the following Return was submitted, but not ordered to be printed:—Correspondence *re* Constable Hunter, Nicola.

All of which are respectfully submitted.

J. M. MUTTER,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

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

That an Order of this House be granted for a Return of a copy of the report of the Auditor of the books of the Land Registry Office, *Victoria*.

On the motion of Mr. *McGregor*, seconded by Mr. *Huff*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to lay before the House copies of a Resolution passed by the Corporation of the *City of Nanaimo* with reference to the question of the dismissal of *J. H. Simpson*, Esquire, Police and Stipendiary Magistrate; of the evidence taken at the Police Enquiry on the charges laid by the Rev. *D. A. McRae* against Chief of the Police *Crossan* and Constable *Thompson*; of the certified copy of a Resolution passed by the *Nanaimo* Police Commissioners at a meeting held February 8th, 1897; of the complaint of Messrs. *Craig Brothers* and of *Walter Roos*, of *Nanaimo*, with reference to the question of the practice of the "Small Debts Act," and the answers from the Judge of the Small Debts Court.

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

Whereas on the 1st day of April, A. D. 1896, the Government of the Dominion of Canada expressed its willingness (without prejudice to its claim to all other reserves in the Province of British Columbia, and that the title of the land which may be accepted as a reserve for the *Songhees Indians* in lieu of their present reserve, be conveyed in fee simple to the Dominion Government) to assent to the terms of the resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia on the 28th day of January, 1896, relative to the removal of the *Songhees Tribe* of Indians from the Reserve to some suitable locality:

And whereas on the 1st day of June, A. D. 1896, the Government of the Province of British Columbia expressed its willingness to accept the aforesaid proposition of the Government of the Dominion of Canada:

And whereas by an Order in Council dated the 23rd day of February, A. D. 1897, the Government of the Dominion of Canada desires to insert an additional term, viz.:—

"1. The Commissioners to select a tract of land as a new reserve for the *Songhees Indians*, and to value such land and the land comprised in the present reserve, assessing the difference in valuation, such difference to be made good by the Province, either by a money payment to the Dominion Government or Trustees for the Indians, or by the allotting of additional land to the satisfaction of the Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs, it being understood that such

land as the Province may set apart for the Indians will be conveyed in fee simple to the Dominion Government, and that the land comprised in the *Songhees Reserve* will revert to the Province," as a further condition of acceptance of the aforesaid Resolution:

And whereas the insistence by the Dominion Government of such terms as so altered will prevent the labours of the Special Commission being entered upon for some time, if not altogether, and thus do an injustice to the *City of Victoria*, besides causing great uneasiness amongst the Indians on the said Reserve:

And whereas it is highly desirable that the Special Commission should commence its sittings at an early date:

Be it therefore Resolved, That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him inform the Government of the Dominion of Canada, that this House does not consider the terms set out in the said Order in Council, dated the 23rd day of February, A. D. 1897, satisfactory or equitable for the settlement of this long pending controversy, nor just to this Province, but approves of the terms set forth in the Order in Council of the Government of the Province of British Columbia, dated the 15th day of March, A. D. 1897, as affording the best means for providing a prompt and final settlement of this important question.

Mr. *Walkem* asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:—

1. Has any promise been made to the company, or its representatives, who are engaged in dyking the *Pitt River Meadows*, for any assistance?
2. If so, what are the particulars of the assistance asked for?
3. Has the Government promised the company any assistance?
4. Have those in charge of the dyking operations in *Matsqui* asked for any assistance?
5. If so, what are the particulars of the application?
6. Has the Government promised to do anything in the matter? If so, to what extent or what are the particulars thereof?

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* replied as follows:—

"It is not advisable, in the public interest, to reply to these questions at the present time."

Mr. *Williams* asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:—

1. Has the *Columbia and Western Railway Company* filed with the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works a map or plan, in compliance with section 2 of "Columbia and Western Railway Subsidy Act, 1896"?
2. Have any lands been reserved from pre-emption under provisions of last recited Act? If so, when reserved, and description of lands?
3. Have Company made selection of blocks under section 4 of said Act?

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* replied as follows:—

- "1. Yes.
- "2. Yes; 7th May and 5th June, 1896. The description will be found in the British Columbia Gazette for 1896, folios 515 and 651.
- "3. No."

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

- (a.) What was the date of the last audit of the books of the Land Registry Office, *Victoria*?
- (b.) What amount of fees, etc., was then outstanding?
- (c.) Give names of persons indebted to the Land Registry Office, *Victoria*, on the 1st of January, 1897, and amounts due from each such person.

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* replied as follows:—

- "(a.) No written report of the last inspection having been made, the date cannot be referred to.
- "(b.) On the 15th February, 1894, the amount of fees outstanding was given at \$4,538.34.
- "(c.) Statement, with list of names, shows amount due on 31st December, 1896, \$3,962.31; payments on account of which, since that date, have been \$1,473.30."

Bill (No. 43) intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Lunatic Asylums and the Care and Custody of the Insane," was read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 45) intituled "An Act to confirm to the Crown all unrecorded and unappropriated Water and Water-power in the Province, and to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the acquiring of Water Rights and Privileges for ordinary domestic, mining and agricultural purposes, and for making adequate provision for Municipal Water Supply, and for the application of water-power to industrial and mechanical purposes," was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again this evening.

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

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

House again in Committee on Bill (No. 45) intituled "An Act to confirm to the Crown all unrecorded and unappropriated Water and Water-power in the Province, and to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the acquiring of Water Rights and Privileges for ordinary domestic, mining and agricultural purposes, and for making adequate provision for Municipal Water Supply, and for the application of water power to industrial and mechanical purposes."

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act to incorporate the Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern Railway and Navigation Company," was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver-Nanaimo Railway Transfer Company," was committed, with Mr. *Forster* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

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

And then the House adjourned at 10:30 o'clock, p. m.

Tuesday, 30th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *W. D. Barber*.

Mr. *Hume* presented a Petition from the *Municipality of Kaslo*, re Water Clauses Consolidation Bill, affecting sections 32, 33 and 34 of the "Municipal Clauses Act, 1896."

Received and *Ordered* to be printed.

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* presented a Return of all correspondence between the Government, or any member thereof, and any person or persons, in reference to the rental of the Government Reserve in *Pleasant Valley, Cariboo District*.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* presented a Return of copies of a Resolution passed by the Corporation of the *City of Nanaimo*, with reference to the question of the dismissal of *J. H. Simpson*, Esquire, Police and Stipendiary Magistrate; of the evidence taken at the Police Enquiry on the charges laid by the Rev. *D. A. McRae* against Chief of the Police *Crossan* and Constable *Thompson*; of the certified copy of a Resolution passed by the *Nanaimo* Police Commissioners

at a meeting held February 8th, 1897; of the complaint of Messrs. *Craig Brothers* and of *Walter Roos*, of *Nanaimo*, with reference to the question of the practice of the "Small Debts Act," and the answers from the Judge of the Small Debts Court.

Mr. *McGregor* moved that the Return be printed.

Mr. *Booth* moved, in amendment, to refer the Return to the Printing Committee, to decide whether it should be printed or not.

Amendment negatived.

Original motion carried.

On the motion of Mr. *Booth*, seconded by Mr. *Huff*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the vote of the House on the 26th day of March, instant, with reference to the reception of the Petition of *Henry Coppinger Beeton et al.*, be reconsidered, and that the Standing Orders be suspended, so as to permit the introduction of said Petition.

The said Petition was then received and referred to the Private Bills Committee.

Bill (No. 50) intituled "An Act for consolidating in one Act certain Provisions usually inserted in Acts with respect to the Constitution of Companies incorporated for carrying on Undertakings of a Public Nature," was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the West Kootenay Power and Light Company, Limited," was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Vancouver and Lulu Island Railway Act, 1891,'" was committed, with Mr. *Kellie* in the Chair.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Cariboo Railway Company's Consolidated Act, 1894,'" was committed, with Mr. *Graham* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 40) intituled "An Act relating to the employment of Chinese on works carried on under franchises granted by Private Acts," was read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 49) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1895,' and amending Act," was committed, with Mr. *McPherson* in the Chair.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

The adjourned debate on Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Cassiar Railway Company," was resumed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

The report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Lardeau Railway Company," was considered.

Mr. *Hume* moved—To amend section 5 by inserting after the word "By-laws," in the 6th line, the following words:—"The Directors to be elected shall be three in number, of whom two shall form a quorum for the transaction of business."

Carried.

Report, as amended, adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill No. 21) intituled "An Act to incorporate the Kaslo and Lardo-Duncan Railway Company," was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 27) intituled "An Act to incorporate the Stikeen and Teslin Railway, Navigation and Colonization Company," was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.
Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the East Kootenay Railway Company," was again committed.

Reported complete without amendment.
Report adopted.
Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver-Nanaimo Railway Transfer Company," was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.
Report to be considered to-morrow.

The following Bills were read a second time and *Ordered* to be committed to-morrow:—

Bill (No. 25) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Victoria, Vancouver and Westminster Railway Company Act, 1894.'"

Bill (No. 26) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Delta, New Westminster and Eastern Railway Company Act, 1894.'"

The Order for the third reading of Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern Railway and Navigation Company," was discharged and the Bill recommitted, for the purpose of considering the following amendments:—

Section 7, line 16—Strike out the word "discretion" and insert the word "opinion."

Section 12, line 6—After the word "partner" insert the words "shareholder or member."

Section 35, line 1—After the word "Act" insert the words "and all Acts in amendment thereof."

The Bill was then committed.

Reported complete with amendments.
Report to be considered to-morrow.

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

Mr. Speaker gave the following decision:—

On the 4th March, instant, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor came down to the House and, in the absence of the Speaker, assented to two Bills, and I have been asked to decide as to the propriety of this proceeding, as affecting the privileges of the House.

I have carefully compiled from recognised constitutional authorities the passages which seem to bear directly upon the right of the House of Commons of recognition by the Crown, through their Speaker, in all matters affecting the assembling and proroguing of Parliament and the royal assent to Bills. It will be seen that the privileges of the Commons are secured by custom and practice, which having been carefully observed for many years, have become the "unwritten law" of the land. The practice of the Canadian Parliament is essentially the same as that of the British Parliament, and no Bill is ever assented to except in the presence of the Commons and the Speaker; nor are the Governor-General's desires made known at the opening of a new Parliament until after the choice of a Speaker has been announced and the choice approved. (*See Bourinot.*)

The custom and practice of this Parliament vary from that of the British and Canadian Parliaments only in so far as they are affected by the existence of but one chamber here. As there is no upper chamber in British Columbia, the Lieutenant-Governor, when his arrival at the House to open or prorogue Parliament, or to assent to Bills, has been announced, is conducted to the Throne by the Sergeant-at-Arms bearing the mace, and the Speaker, who has previously called the House to order by taking the Chair, vacates the Chair as the Lieutenant-Governor approaches the Throne. The Chair is then taken by the Lieutenant-Governor, and the royal assent signified. The Lieutenant-Governor, preceded by the mace, then retires. The mace is returned to the cushion in front of the Chair, the Speaker resumes his seat, and the House proceeds to the transaction of business. (*See Journals of B. C. Parliament since Confederation.*)

It may not be inappropriate here to quote from a late copy of the London *Times* in support of the practice of the British Columbia House:—

“The Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, Gen. Sir M. Biddulph, requested the attendance of the House in the House of Lords to hear the royal assent given to a Bill passed by both Houses. The Speaker, attended by several Hon. Members, proceeded to the House of Lords, and on his return announced that the royal assent had been given to the Local Government (Elections) Bill.” (London *Times* Parliamentary Report, February 17th, 1897.)

I submit the compiled authorities herewith.

D. W. HIGGINS,
Speaker.

At the commencement of every Parliament since 7th Henry VIII., it has been the custom for the Speaker—

“In the name and on behalf of the Commons, to lay claim, by humble petition, to their ancient and undoubted rights and privileges; particularly that their persons and servants might be free from arrests and all molestations; that they may enjoy liberty of speech in all their debates; may have access to Her Majesty’s royal person whenever occasion shall require; and that all their proceedings may receive from Her Majesty the most favourable construction.”

To which the Lord Chancellor replies that—

“Her Majesty most readily confirms all the rights and privileges which have ever been granted to or conferred upon the Commons by Her Majesty or any of Her royal predecessors.”

The authority of the Crown in regard to the privileges of the Commons is further acknowledged by the report of the Speaker to the House, “that their privileges have been confirmed in as full and ample a manner as they have been heretofore granted and allowed by Her Majesty or any of Her royal predecessors.”

This custom probably originated in the ancient practice of confirming laws in Parliament, that were already in force, by petitions from the Commons, to which the assent of the King was given, with the advice and consent of the Lords.

But whatever may have been the origin and cause of this custom, and however great the concession to the Crown may appear, the privileges of the Commons are nevertheless independent of the Crown, and are enjoyed irrespectively of their petition. *May*, 10th Ed., pages 57 & 58.

The privilege of access is not enjoyed by individual members of the House of Commons, but by the House at large, with their Speaker. *May*, 10th Ed., page 59.

* * * * *

That all the proceedings of the Commons may receive from Her Majesty the most favourable construction is conducive to that cordial co-operation of the several branches of the Legislature which is essential to order and good government; but it cannot be classed among the privileges of Parliament. It is not a constitutional right but a personal courtesy, and, if not observed, the proceedings of the House are guarded against any interference on the part of the Crown not authorised by the laws and constitution of the country. *May*, 10th Ed., pages 59 & 60.

* * * * *

Each House, as a constituent part of a Parliament, exercises its own privileges independently of the other. They are enjoyed, however, not by any separate right peculiar to each, but solely by virtue of the law and custom of Parliament. *May*, 10th Ed., page 60.

* * * * *

Whatever Parliament has constantly declared to be a privilege is the sole evidence of its being part of the ancient law of Parliament. “The only method,” says Blackstone, “of proving that this or that maxim is a rule of the common law is by shewing that it hath always been the custom to observe it”; and “it is laid down as a general rule that the decisions of Courts of Justice are the evidence of what is common law.” The same rule is strictly applicable to matters of privilege, and to the expounding of the unwritten law of Parliament. On the day appointed by royal proclamation for the first meeting of a new Parliament for dispatch of business, the members of both Houses assemble in their respective chambers. In the House of Lords, the Lord Chancellor acquaints the House “that Her Majesty, not thinking it fit to be personally present here this day, has been pleased to cause a commission to be issued under the Great Seal in order to the opening and holding of this Parliament.” The five

Lords Commissioners, being in their robes, and seated on a form between the throne and the woolsack, then command the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to "let the Commoners know the Lords Commissioners desire their immediate attendance in this House to hear the commission read."

* * * * *

On receiving the message from the Black Rod, the Clerk and the House of Commons go up to the House of Peers. The Lord Chancellor then addresses the members of both Houses, and acquaints them that Her Majesty has been pleased "to cause Letters Patent to be issued, under Her Great Seal, constituting us, and other Lords therein named, Her Commissioners, to do all things in Her Majesty's name, in Her part necessary to be performed in this Parliament." The Letters Patent are next read at length by the Clerk; after which the Lord Chancellor, acting in obedience to these general directions, again addresses both Houses, and acquaints them—

"That Her Majesty will, as soon as the Members of both Houses shall be sworn, declare the causes of Her calling this Parliament; and it being necessary a Speaker of the House of Commons should be first chosen, that you, gentlemen of the House of Commons, repair to the place where you are to sit, and there proceed to the appointment of some proper person to be your Speaker; and that you present such person whom you shall choose, here, to-morrow (at an hour stated) for Her Majesty's royal approbation."

* * * * *

The Commons withdraw immediately after the Queen's pleasure for the election of a Speaker has been signified, return to their own House, and proceed to the election of their Speaker.

* * * * *

The House meets on the following day, and Mr. Speaker elect takes the Chair and awaits the arrival of the Black Rod from the Lords Commissioners. When that officer has delivered his message, Mr. Speaker elect, with the House, goes up to the House of Peers, and acquaints the Lords Commissioners—

"That in obedience to Her Majesty's commands, Her Majesty's faithful Commons, in the exercise of their undoubted right and privilege, have proceeded to the election of a Speaker, and as the object of their choice he now presents himself at your bar, and submits himself with all humility to Her Majesty's gracious approbation."

In reply, the Lord Chancellor assures him of Her Majesty's sense of his sufficiency, and "that Her Majesty most fully approves and confirms him as the Speaker."

When the Speaker has been approved he lays claim, on behalf of the Commons, "by humble petition to Her Majesty, to all their ancient and undoubted rights and privileges," which being confirmed the Speaker, with the Commons, retires from the bar of the House of Lords.

The Speaker thus elected and approved continues in that office during the whole Parliament, unless in the meantime he resigns or is removed by death. *May*, 10th Ed., pages, 146, 147, 149, 150, 152, 153.

The duties of the Speaker are as various as they are important. He presides over the deliberations of the House and enforces the observance of all rules for preserving order in its proceedings. He puts every question, and declares the determination of the House. As "Mouth of the House," he communicates its resolutions to others, conveys its thanks, and expresses its censure, its reprimands, or its admonitions. * * *

He is, in fact, the representative of the House itself, in its powers, its proceedings, and its dignity. * * * The Speaker is responsible for the due enforcement of the rules, rights and privileges of the House. *May*, 10th Ed., page 187.

The form in which the royal assent is signified by commission is as follows:—Three or more of the Lords Commissioners, seated on a form between the Throne and woolsack in the House of Lords, command the Usher of the Black Rod to signify to the Commons that their attendance is desired in the House of Peers to hear the commission read, upon which, the Commons, with the Speaker, immediately come to the bar. The commission is then read at length, and the titles of the Bills being afterwards read by the Clerk of the Crown, the royal assent to each is signified by the Clerk of the Parliaments in Norman French; is so entered in the Lords' Journal. *May*, 10th Ed., page 483.

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

Wednesday, 31st March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *W. D. Barber*.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a letter from *E. T. Daniel*, President of "The Trail Water Supply Company," in reply to objections in Petition presented against "The Trail Water Company's" Bill.

Received and referred to the Private Bills Committee.

On the motion of Mr. *Kellie*, Bill (No. 51) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Tramway Company Incorporation Act, 1895,'" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time on Friday next.

On the motion of Mr. *Kellie*, Bill (No. 52) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Wide Tire Act, 1893,'" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time on Friday next.

On the motion of Mr. *Kennedy*, Bill (No. 53) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Poison Act,'" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time on Tuesday next.

The Order for the third reading of Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the West Kootenay Power and Light Company, Limited," was called.

Mr. *Forster* moved, seconded by Mr. *Smith*,—

That the order for the third reading be discharged, and the Bill be recommitted on Friday next, for the purpose of striking out clause 40.

Carried.

Mr. *Kidd* asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions :—

1. Is it true that the Government has made, or promised to make, some modification in the terms and conditions in the leases of the *Burnaby Small Holders*?

2. If so, what modification has been made, or promised to be made?

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* replied as follows :—

"The Government have the matter under negotiation."

Mr. *Kennedy* asked the Hon. the Minister of Education the following questions :—

1. Is there a school called "*Campbell's Creek School*" (or some such name), between *Kamloops* and *Ducks*?

2. Has there been any trouble in getting teachers to take charge of such school?

3. Has such school shown an actual daily attendance of *ten*, as required by the Act?

4. If not, why has said school not been closed?

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* replied as follows :—

"1. Yes.

"2. Not to my knowledge.

"3. No.

"4. It being an assisted school, an average actual daily attendance of ten is not demanded by the School Act."

Mr. *Hume* asked the Hon. the Minister of Mines the following questions :—

1. Did the Government instruct the Gold Commissioners of *East Yale* or *West Kootenay* not to grant any water rights in the above districts?
2. If so, what date were such notices sent out?
3. Has the Government, or any of its agents, made any water grants in the above districts?
4. If so, to whom, and the amount in inches, and the date of such grant or grants?

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* replied as follows :—

“ 1. Yes, without the consent of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

“ 2. 8th of March, instant.

“ 3. Yes; in the District of *West Kootenay*.

“ 4. ‘*Reco*’ and ‘*Noble Five*’ mining companies, 200 inches each, on the 13th instant; *F. Aug. Heinze*, 1,200 inches, on the 29th instant.

“ Applications by the aforesaid were made to the Gold Commissioner for the district several months previous to the 8th instant.”

Bill (No. 44) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Nanaimo-Alberni Railway Company,” was again committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 19) intituled “An Act to amend the Cariboo Railway Company’s Consolidated Act, 1894,” was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented the Annual Report of the Medical Superintendent of the Provincial Asylum for the Insane.

The Report on Bill (No. 28) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver-Nanaimo Railway Transfer Company,” was adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 25) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Victoria, Vancouver, and Westminster Railway Company Act, 1894,’” was committed, with Mr. *Rogers* in the Chair.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 26) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Delta, New Westminster and Eastern Railway Company Act, 1894,’” was committed, with Mr. *Stoddart* in the Chair.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 50) intituled “An Act for consolidating in one Act certain Provisions usually inserted in Acts with respect to the Constitution of Companies incorporated for carrying on Undertakings of a Public Nature,” was committed, with Mr. *Smith* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 46) intituled “An Act to authorise the Yukon Mining, Trading and Transportation Company (Foreign) to construct a line of Railway from the head of Steamboat Navigation on Taku Inlet to Teslin Lake,” was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

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

And then the House adjourned at 4:35 o’clock, p. m.