

# JOURNALS

OF THE

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

OF THE PROVINCE OF  
BRITISH COLUMBIA.

SESSION 1903.

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Thursday, 2nd April, 1903.

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THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

This being the first day of the fourth meeting of the Ninth Parliament or Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of His Honour the Honourable Sir HENRI GUSTAVE JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the nineteenth day of February, 1903.

His Honour the Honourable Sir *Henri Gustave Joly de Lotbinière*, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, having entered the House, took his seat on the Throne, and was pleased to deliver the following gracious Speech:—

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:*

I have much pleasure in welcoming you to the Fourth Session of the Ninth Legislature of British Columbia.

There is much cause for us to be thankful in the fact that His Most Gracious Majesty King Edward VII. has been fully restored to health, and I am pleased that my First Minister had the honour of being present at his Coronation.

Although some of the leading industries of the Province have, unfortunately, been seriously hindered by reason of disputes between employers of labour and employees, the past year has been a fairly prosperous one. With a view to obviating and settling these industrial differences in future, a conciliatory measure will be introduced.

I congratulate you on the fact that enquiries respecting settlement in this Province are so largely on the increase, and also that, as a consequence of the movement of population to Manitoba and the North-West Territories, which is rapidly filling up and developing that country, the demand for our lumber and fruit has greatly added to the prosperity of these industries in British Columbia.

Measures will be introduced for the purpose of dealing with lands in a manner that will tend to encourage immigration of farmers and fruit-growers, and of satisfactorily adjusting existing liabilities for dyking against lands within certain dyking districts.

Provision will be made, by survey or reconnaissance, for the more accurate delimitation and better knowledge of districts available for settlement and development.

It is satisfactory to know that the outlook for railway construction in the Province is promising, and I have pleasure in stating that Bills will be submitted for the purpose of giving aid in that direction.

An Act to amend the "Assessment Act," in order to improve the method of tax collecting, will be submitted for your consideration.

Legislation will be introduced having in view the re-adjustment of the present system of taxation of metalliferous mines, and to amend the "Coal Mines Regulation Act" in accordance with the recommendations of the Commissioners appointed last year to investigate the causes of accident in coal mines, with a view to securing greater safety of operatives.

You will be asked to consider a measure for the adjustment of the claims of the pioneer settlers on the lands within the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company land belt.

A Bill is now before the House of Commons of Canada, providing for the increase of the head tax on Chinese from \$100 to \$500, being in accordance with recommendations made by the Legislature and the representatives of this Province, and I trust it will become law.

The Acts of last Session disallowed by the Dominion Government will be submitted for re-enactment, in the hope that the Dominion Government may, upon further consideration, recognise the wisdom of such legislation, and that the rights of the Province may prevail.

Papers will be laid before you giving all information regarding the several important matters considered at the conference between the Dominion Government and my First Minister and Attorney-General at Ottawa, in February last.

Carefully prepared Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure will be submitted without delay.

With every confidence that your labours will be directed to the honour and advantage of the Province, I leave you to your deliberations, and earnestly invoke on your behalf the Divine blessing.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was then pleased to retire.

Prayers by the Lord Bishop of Columbia.

Mr. Speaker reported that, to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy of His Honour's Speech.

The following election certificates and returns were read:—

"PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

"VICTORIA, 17th December, 1902.

"Whereas a vacancy occurred in the Legislative Assembly by the acceptance of office by the Honourable *William Wallace Burns McInnes*, a Member for the North Nanaimo Electoral District:

"And whereas on the first day of December, 1902, a writ for the election of a Member to represent such Electoral District was duly issued to *Thomas Haggart*, the Returning Officer of the said District:

"Now I do hereby certify that, on the 17th day of December, 1902, the said writ was returned to me by the said Returning Officer, with his certificate attached, whereby it appears that the Honourable *William Wallace Burns McInnes* has been, under and by virtue of the said writ, elected to represent the North Nanaimo Electoral District.

"A. CAMPBELL REDDIE,

"Deputy Provincial Secretary.

"To the Clerk of the  
"Legislative Assembly of British Columbia."

"PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,  
"VICTORIA, 29th December, 1902.

"Whereas a vacancy happened in the Legislative Assembly by the death of the Honourable *John Paton Booth*, a Member for the North Victoria Electoral District :

"And whereas on the second day of December, 1902, a writ for the election of a Member to represent such Electoral District was duly issued to *Percy Purvis*, the Returning Officer of the said Electoral District :

"Now I do hereby certify that, on the 27th day of December, instant, the said writ was returned to me by the said Returning Officer, with his certificate endorsed thereon, whereby it appears that, under and by virtue of the said writ, *Thomas Wilson Paterson* has been elected a Member to represent the said North Victoria Electoral District.

"A. CAMPBELL REDDIE,  
"Deputy Provincial Secretary.

"To the Clerk of the  
"Legislative Assembly of British Columbia."

"PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,  
"5th March, 1903.

"Whereas a vacancy happened in the Legislative Assembly by reason of the acceptance of office by *Dennis Murphy*, a Member for the West Riding of the Yale Electoral District ; and

"Whereas on the fourteenth day of January, 1903, a writ for the election of a Member to represent such Riding was duly issued to *David William Rowlands*, appointed Returning Officer for the purpose only of holding an election under and pursuant to the said writ of election :

"Now I do hereby certify that, on the fifth day of March, 1903, the said writ was returned to me by the said Returning Officer, with his certificate endorsed thereon, whereby it appears that, under and by virtue of the said writ, *Charles Augustus Semlin* has been elected a Member to represent the West Riding of Yale Electoral District.

"A. CAMPBELL REDDIE,  
"Deputy Provincial Secretary.

"To the Clerk of the  
"Legislative Assembly of British Columbia."

Ordered to be placed on the Journals of the House.

*C. A. Semlin*, Esq., Member elect for West Riding of Yale Electoral District, having been duly sworn, was introduced by Messrs. *Green* and *McBride*, and took his seat.

*T. W. Paterson*, Esquire, Member elect for North Victoria Electoral District, having been duly sworn, was introduced by Messrs. *Tatlow* and *Oliver*, and took his seat.

The Hon. *W. W. B. McInnes*, Member elect for North Nanaimo Electoral District, having been duly sworn, was introduced by the Hon. *E. G. Prior* and the Hon. *J. D. Prentice* and took his seat.

Ordered, That the Select Standing Committees of this House, for the present Session, be appointed for the following purposes :—

1. On Standing Orders and Private Bills ;
2. On Public Accounts ;
3. On Printing ;
4. On Railways ;
5. On Mining ;
6. On Agriculture ;
7. On Municipal Matters ;

which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and inquire into all such matters and things as shall be referred to them by the House, and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon, with power to send for papers, persons and records.

*Ordered*, That the Votes and Proceedings of this House be printed, being first perused by Mr. Speaker, and that he do appoint the printing thereof, and that no person but such as he shall appoint do presume to print the same.

*Resolved*, That if it shall appear that any person hath been elected or returned a Member of this House, or endeavoured so to be, by bribery or other corrupt practices, this House will proceed with the utmost severity against all such persons as shall have been wilfully concerned in such bribery or other corrupt practices.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Eberts*, Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Liquor Licence Act, 1900,'" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time at the next sitting of the House.

*Resolved*, That the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor be taken into consideration on Monday next.

The following Reports were presented :—

By the Hon. Mr. *Prior*—Report on the Fernie Coal Mines Explosion.

By the Hon. Mr. *Prentice*—Public Accounts of the Province for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1902.

By the Hon. Mr. *McInnes*—Thirty-first Annual Report of the Public Schools of the Province.

By the Hon. Mr. *McInnes*—Report on the Public Hospital for the Insane.

By the Hon. Mr. *Wells*—Report of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

By the Hon. Mr. *Eberts*—Report of the Fisheries Commissioner for the Province for the year 1902.

By the Hon. Mr. *Eberts*—Report of the Provincial Board of Health.

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

HENRI G. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE,  
*Lieutenant-Governor.*

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits herewith a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act,'" and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*2nd April, 1903.*

*Ordered*, That the said Message, and the Bill accompanying the same, be referred to a Committee of the Whole on Monday next.

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

HENRI G. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE,  
*Lieutenant-Governor.*

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits herewith a Bill intituled the "Small Holdings Act, 1903," and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*2nd April, 1903.*

*Ordered*, That the said Message, and the Bill accompanying the same, be referred to a Committee of the Whole 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 3:45 P.M.

Monday, 6th April, 1903.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *J. H. S. Sweet*.

The House proceeded to take into consideration the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session.

Mr. *Hayward* moved, seconded by Mr. *A. W. Smith*,—

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour for his gracious Speech at the opening of the present Session; and further to assure His Honour that:—

1. This House joins His Honour in returning thanks for the full restoration to health of His Most Gracious Majesty King Edward VII., and is pleased to learn that His Honour's First Minister had the privilege of being present at the coronation of His Majesty.

2. It is gratifying to be informed that the past year has been a fairly prosperous one, notwithstanding that some of the leading industries of the Province have, unfortunately, been seriously hindered by reason of disputes between employers of labour and employees. Any legislation introduced by His Honour's Government having for its object the settlement of such industrial differences shall receive our careful consideration.

3. We are pleased to be informed that the settlement of Manitoba and the North-West Territories, which is now rapidly taking place, has already created a demand for our lumber and fruit that has added materially to our prosperity.

4. The measures referred to by His Honour for encouraging the immigration of farmers and fruit-growers by providing facilities for the purchase of suitable land, for satisfactorily adjusting the liabilities for dyking charges against lands in certain dyking districts, and for providing better knowledge, by means of surveys and reconnaissances, of districts available for settlement and development, shall receive our careful consideration.

5. It is satisfactory to know that the outlook for railway construction in the Province is promising, and that Bills will be submitted for the purpose of giving aid in that direction.

6. We have no doubt that the Commissioners appointed last year to investigate the causes of accidents in coal mines have made many valuable recommendations to His Honour, which should be embodied in legislation.

7. It is desirable that the present system of taxation of metalliferous mines be readjusted.

8. We are pleased to be assured that His Honour's Government intend to submit a measure for the settlement of the claims of the pioneer settlers on the lands within the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company's land belt.

9. We trust that the Bill now before the House of Commons of Canada, providing for the increase of the head tax on Chinese from \$100 to \$500, in accordance with recommendations made by the Legislature and representatives of this Province, will become law.

10. We regret to be advised that the Dominion Government has disallowed certain Acts of last Session dealing with immigration and the regulation of coal mines, and of labour. We agree with His Honour that this legislation should be re-enacted, in the hope that the Dominion Government may, upon further consideration, recognise the wisdom of these enactments, and that the rights of the Province may prevail.

11. We thank His Honour for informing us that papers will be laid before us giving all information regarding several important matters considered at the conference at Ottawa in February last between the Dominion Government and His Honour's First Minister and Attorney-General, and that carefully prepared Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure will be submitted without delay.

12. His Honour may rest assured that the measures which may be brought before us shall receive our earnest consideration, and we trust that our deliberations, under the Divine guidance, will conduce to the prosperity and welfare of the people of the Province.

A debate arose, which was adjourned until to-morrow.

The Hon. the Premier presented the Report on the Iron Ores of the Coast of British Columbia.

Also, a Return under sub-section (2) of section 10 of the "Public Inquiries Act."

The Hon. *W. W. B. McInnes* presented Papers relating to certain Acts passed by the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia during the Session of 1902.

*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.

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Tuesday, 7th April, 1903.

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TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *J. H. S. Sweet*.

The following petitions were laid on the table:—

By Mr. *E. C. Smith*, from "The Kootenay Central Railway Company," for a Private Bill to amend its Corporate Act. (No. 7.)

By Mr. *E. C. Smith*, from *C. A. Holland* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Morrissey, Fernie and Michel Railway Company." (No. 1.)

By Mr. *E. C. Smith*, from *C. H. Pollen* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Kootenay, Cariboo and Pacific Railway Company." (No. 8.)

By Mr. *A. E. McPhillips*, from "The Vernon and Nelson Telephone Company," to amend their Corporate Act. (No. 13.)

By Mr. *Jno. Oliver*, from *Alex. N. Anderson* and others, asking for a grant in aid of a road to Langley Prairie and Clover Valley.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the House.

Resolution agreed to.

On the motion of the Honourable the Minister of Finance, seconded by the Honourable the Premier, it was *Resolved*,—

That the Resolution to present an Address to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, thanking His Honour for His Gracious Speech, be referred to a Select Committee, composed as follows:—

The Honourable the Attorney-General, the Honourable the Minister of Finance, the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, the Honourable the Provincial Secretary, and the Honourable the Minister of Mines.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance, from the Select Committee, reported an Address which read as follows:—

*To the Honourable Sir HENRI GUSTAVE JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia.*

We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, in Parliament assembled, humbly thank Your Honour for your gracious Speech at the opening of the Fourth Session of the Ninth Parliament, and assure Your Honour that:—

This House joins Your Honour in returning thanks for the full restoration to health of His Most Gracious Majesty King Edward VII., and is pleased to learn that Your Honour's First Minister had the privilege of being present at the coronation of His Majesty.

It is gratifying to be informed that the past year has been a fairly prosperous one, notwithstanding that some of the leading industries of the Province have, unfortunately, been seriously hindered by reason of disputes between employers of labour and employees. Any legislation introduced by Your Honour's Government having for its object the settlement of such industrial differences shall receive our careful consideration.

We are pleased to be informed that the settlement of Manitoba and the North-West Territories, which is now rapidly taking place, has already created a demand for our lumber and fruit that has added materially to our prosperity.

The measures referred to by Your Honour for encouraging the immigration of farmers and fruit-growers by providing facilities for the purchase of suitable land, for satisfactorily adjusting the liabilities for dyking charges against lands in certain dyking districts, and for providing better knowledge, by means of surveys and reconnaissances, of districts available for settlement and development, shall receive our careful consideration.

It is satisfactory to know that the outlook for railway construction in the Province is promising, and that Bills will be submitted for the purpose of giving aid in that direction.

We have no doubt that the Commissioners appointed last year to investigate the causes of accidents in coal mines have made many valuable recommendations to Your Honour, which should be embodied in legislation.

It is desirable that the present system of taxation of metalliferous mines be readjusted.

We are pleased to be assured that Your Honour's Government intend to submit a measure for the settlement of the claims of the pioneer settlers on the lands within the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company's land belt.

We trust that the Bill now before the House of Commons of Canada, providing for the increase of the head tax on Chinese from \$100 to \$500, in accordance with recommendations made by the Legislature and representatives of this Province, will become law.

We regret to be advised that the Dominion Government has disallowed certain Acts of last Session dealing with immigration and the regulation of coal mines and of labour. We agree with Your Honour that this legislation should be re-enacted, in the hope that the Dominion Government may, upon further consideration, recognise the wisdom of these enactments, and that the rights of the Province may prevail.

We thank Your Honour for informing us that papers will be laid before us giving all information regarding several important matters considered at the conference at Ottawa in February last between the Dominion Government and Your Honour's First Minister and Attorney-General, and that carefully prepared Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure will be submitted without delay.

Your Honour may rest assured that the measures which may be brought before us will receive our earnest consideration, and we trust that our deliberations, under the Divine guidance, will conduce to the prosperity and welfare of the people of the Province.

On the motion of the Honourable the Minister of Finance, seconded by the Honourable the Attorney-General, it was *Resolved*,—

That the Address in reply to the Speech be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor by such Members as are of the Executive Council.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Prentice*, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Prior*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a Supply be granted to His Majesty, and that this House do resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Thursday next to consider the Resolution.

The following Bills were introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be read a second time at the next sitting of the House :—

By the Hon. Mr. *McInnes*—Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act relating to the employment on Works carried on under Franchises granted by Private Acts."

By the Hon. Mr. *Prior*—Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to Regulate Immigration into British Columbia."

By the Hon. Mr. *Prentice*—Bill (No. 8) intituled the "New Westminster Relief Act, 1899," Amendment Act, 1903."

By the Hon. Mr. *Prentice*—Bill (No. 9) intituled “An Act to amend the Dairy and Live Stock Associations Act.”

By the Hon. Mr. *Prentice*—Bill (No. 10) intituled “An Act to amend the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies Act.”

By Mr. *Hawthornthwaite*—Bill (No. 11) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Coal Mines Regulation Act.’”

By Mr. *Neill*—Bill (No. 12) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Game Protection Act, 1898.’”

On the motion of Mr. *Tatlow*, seconded by Mr. *Green*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return giving an abstract of the receipts and expenditures of the Province for the half-year ending December 31st, 1902.

On the motion of Mr. *Oliver*, seconded by Mr. *E. C. Smith*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a Select Committee of five members of this House, to wit, Messrs. *Clifford*, *Helmcken*, *A. W. Smith*, *Green* and *McPhillips*, be appointed to enquire into all matters relating to the granting, or proposed granting, of a land subsidy to the Columbia and Western Railway Company, with power to summon witnesses, call for papers, documents and records, and the said Committee shall report their findings, or finding, and the evidence to the House.

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

Has the Government cancelled the Reserve which covers the coal and oil lands in South-East Kootenay? If so, when? If not, is it the intention so to do?

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

“There has been no reservation of any lands in South-East Kootenay cancelled. The cancellation of any reserves has not yet been considered.”

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

1. What was the overdraft at bank on December 31st, 1902; January 31st, 1903; February 28th, 1903; March 31st, 1903, respectively?

2. What amount of cash was in the Treasury, or in the hands of Agents, at those dates?

3. What rate of interest is being paid the bank on said overdraft?

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

	Account Current.	Dyking Account.	Total.
“ 1. Dec. 31st, 1902 . . . . .	\$1,499,436 64 . . . . .	\$205,664 53 . . . . .	\$1,705,099 17
Jan. 31st, 1903 . . . . .	1,499,867 52 . . . . .	209,265 21 . . . . .	1,709,132 73
Feb. 28th, 1903 . . . . .	881,182 19 . . . . .	213,684 47 . . . . .	1,094,866 66
Mar. 31st, 1903 . . . . .	1,024,732 07 . . . . .	220,561 28 . . . . .	1,245,293 35

“NOTE.—On 1st April, 1903, a payment of \$777,600 was made from the proceeds of the Loan, thereby reducing the overdraft on that date to \$367,793.

“ 2. Dec. 31st, 1902, Cash in Agents’ hands,	\$69,275 07	In Treasury,	\$ 8,315 24
Jan. 31st, 1903,	“	“	11,206 37
Feb. 28th, 1903,	“	“	12,534 32
Mar. 31st, 1903, Returns not received.	“	“	31,485 32

“ 3. Four per cent. per annum.”

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

At what price were the Provincial bonds purchased by the Trustees for the Sinking Fund in January, 1901; January, 1902; January, 1903?

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

“January, 1901, 92; January, 1902, 92½; January, 1903, 90¼.”

Mr. *Tatlow* asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

Do the Government propose extending the benefits of the “South African War Land Grant Act, 1901,” to persons who have since the passage of that Act gone to South Africa in



the same capacity as those who went before the passage of the Act and are entitled to the benefits thereof?

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

“Yes.”

Pursuant to Order, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the Message of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor transmitting Bill intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Assessment Act.’”

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

*Resolved*, That the Committee rise and report to the House a Bill (No. 4) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Assessment Act,’” and recommend the introduction of the same.

Mr. *Hunter*, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Resolution and the Bill.

Report adopted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Second reading at the next sitting of the House.

Pursuant to Order, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the Message of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor transmitting Bill intituled “Small Holdings Act, 1903.”

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

*Resolved*, That the Committee rise and report to the House a Bill (No. 6) intituled “Small Holdings Act, 1903,” and recommend the introduction of the same.

Mr. *Hunter*, Chairman of the Committee reported the Resolution and the Bill.

Report adopted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Second reading at the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. the Minister of Finance presented a Return giving an abstract of the receipts and expenditures of the Province for the half-year ending 31st December, 1902.

Bill (No. 1) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Liquor Licence Act, 1900,’” 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 3:40 o'clock, P.M.

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Wednesday, 8th April, 1903.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *J. H. S. Sweet*.

The following petitions were laid on the table:—

By Mr. *Mounce*, from *Claud Elliott* and others, for leave to introduce a Private Bill to incorporate “The Adams River Railway Company.” (No. 9.)

By Mr. *Stables*, from *R. L. Patterson* and others, for leave to introduce a Private Bill to incorporate “The British Columbia Northern and Mackenzie Valley Railway Company.” (No. 12.)

By Mr. *Dickie*, from the Pacific Northern and Omineca Railway Company, for leave to introduce a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act. (No. 4.)

By Mr. *Dickie* from *Jno. Irving* and others, for leave to introduce a Private Bill to incorporate "The Pacific Northern and Eastern Railway Company." (No. 3.)

The following petitions were received:—

From "The Kootenay Central Railway Company," for a Private Bill to amend its Corporate Act. (No. 7.)

From *C. A. Holland* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Morrissey, Fernie and Michel Railway Company." (No. 1.)

From *C. H. Pollen* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Kootenay, Cariboo and Pacific Railway Company." (No. 8.)

From "The Vernon and Nelson Telephone Company," to amend their Corporate Act. (No. 13.)

The petition from *Alex. N. Anderson* and others, asking for a grant in aid of a road to Langley Prairie and Clover Valley, was ruled out of order.

The following Members were appointed to form the Standing Committees:—

Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders—Messrs. *Helmcken, Dickie, A. W. Smith, Gilmour, McPhillips, Tatlow* and *Kidd*.

Committee on Mining—Messrs. *A. W. Smith, Stables, Dunsmuir, Clifford, Dickie, Rogers, Houston, Hunter, Ellison, Neill, E. C. Smith, Taylor, Green, Munro, Curtis, Paterson, Semlin, Hawthornthwaite, Gifford* and *Garden*.

Committee on Railways—Messrs. *Hunter, E. C. Smith, Dunsmuir, Clifford, Stables, Gilmour, Ellison, Houston, Rogers, Hayward, McPhillips, Fulton, Garden, Green, Munro, Taylor, Gifford* and *Paterson*.

Committee on Public Accounts—Messrs. *Hall, Neill, Mounce, Paterson* and *Curtis*.

Committee on Printing—Messrs. *Houston, Hayward, Mounce, Semlin* and *Tatlow*.

Committee on Agriculture—Messrs. *Ellison, Hayward, Neill, A. W. Smith, Kidd, Oliver*, and *Semlin*.

Committee on Municipal Matters—Messrs. *Helmcken, Houston, Hall, Mounce, Oliver, Garden* and *Munro*.

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

By the Hon. Mr. *McInnes*—Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act to further amend the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act.'"

By the Hon. Mr. *McInnes*—Bill (No. 13) intituled "An Act for the Prevention of Strikes and Lock-outs."

By Mr. *Green*—Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to further amend the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act.'"

By Mr. *Hayward*—Bill (No. 14) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Medical Act, 1898.'"

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

That an Order of this House be granted for a Return of a copy of the judgment delivered by the Privy Council *In Re Tomey Homma*.

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, asking for a Return of all correspondence between the Government of the Province of British Columbia, or any member thereof, and the Government of the Dominion of Canada, or any member thereof, touching the settlement of the Alaska boundary.

On the motion of Mr. *McBride*, seconded by Mr. *Garden*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all Orders in Council, correspondence and other papers relating to Deadman's Island, Burrard Inlet.

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

1. Have any applications been received for leasing coal, oil or timber land in Blocks 4593 and 4594, South-East Kootenay, since the reserve was placed on said blocks?
2. If any applications have been received, how many, and for what acreage?
3. Have any leases been given?
4. If so, how many?
5. To whom have the leases been given, and how many acres to each leaseholder?

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

"1. No applications have been received for leases of coal or oil lands in those blocks. Three applications have been received for leases of timber lands in Block 4,594.

"2. Three; aggregating 9,900 acres.

"3. No.

"4. None.

"5. No leases have been given."

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

1. Was there at any time since September 4th, 1901, any Crown grant or grants prepared in favour of the Columbia and Western Railway Co. for any lands in Blocks 4,593 and 4,594, South-East Kootenay?

2. If prepared, was the grant or grants signed by the Lieutenant-Governor?

3. Was any grant or grants of any of these lands handed over to the Company?

4. Was any grant or grants of any of these lands ever in the possession of the Railway Company?

5. Was any grant or grants of any of these lands cancelled?

6. Have any Crown grant or grants of any of these lands been issued to any person or persons besides the Railway Company? If so, to whom, and how many acres to each?

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

"1. Yes, but subsequently cancelled."

"2. Yes."

"3. No."

"4. No."

"5. Yes."

"6. Crown Grants have been issued as follows :—

NAME.	Acreage.	Description.
Kootenay Valleys Co., Ltd .....	565	Lot 227, Group I. Kootenay District.
Columbia & Kootenay Ry. & Navigation Co., Ltd.....	2,090	" 363, " "
James A. McDonnell .....	183	" 2,314, " "
Do. ....	146	" 2,315, " "
D. Howard McAllister.....	305	" 3,047, " "
W. B. McLean.....	407	" 3,048, " "
Geo. S. McCarter, Henry G. Parsons and Robt. Milligan	602	" 3,049, " "
Wm. Fernie and F. Freeman .....	160	" 3,054, " "
Malcolm McCormick .....	262	" 4,833, " "
Henry A. Kanouse .....	430	" 5,237, " "
Henry Bentley. ....	117	" 5,238, " "
Charles H. Levers .....	640	" 5,239, " "
George Walker .....	640	" 5,458, " "
Orson W. Janes .....	307	" 5,455, " "
Samuel Graham.....	22	" 5,813, " "

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

1. Does the reserve placed on all Crown lands on Graham Island by Gazette notice of January 30th, 1901, still exist?

2. If so, will the Government, in view of the demand for Provincial lands and minerals, cancel this reserve?

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

“1. Yes.

“2. The matter has not yet been considered.”

The following papers were presented:—

By the Hon. Attorney-General—A Return of a copy of the judgment delivered by the Privy Council *In re Tomey Homma*.

By the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works—A Return of copies of all Orders in Council, correspondence and other papers relating to Deadman's Island, Burrard Inlet.

On the second reading of Bill (No. 2) intituled “An Act to Regulate Immigration into British Columbia”—

Question proposed—“That the Bill be read a second time now.”

Mr. *Curtis* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Hawthornthwaite*.—

That all the words after “That” be struck out, and the following substituted therefor:—

“The House affirms the principle of Bill (No. 2) intituled “An Act to Regulate Immigration into British Columbia,” and expresses its desire that it shall be added to and form a part of the Supply Bill.

Mr. Speaker *Pooley* ruled the amendment out of order.

Debate resumed.

Bill read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

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

Bill (No. 3) intituled “An Act relating to the employment on Works carried on under Franchises granted by Private Acts.”

Bill (No. 8) intituled “‘New Westminster Relief Act, 1899,’ Amendment Act, 1903.”

Bill (No. 9) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Dairy and Live Stock Associations Act.’”

Bill (No. 10) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Agricultural and Horticultural Societies Act.’”

On motion of the Hon. Mr. *Prior*, Bill (No. 16) intituled “An Act to ratify an Order in Council approved on the eighteenth day of March, 1902, rescinding certain provisions of an Order in Council approved on the fourth day of September, 1901, respecting the Land Grant of the Columbia and Western Railway Company,” was introduced, read a first time and *Ordered* to be read a second time tomorrow.

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

And then the House, adjourned at 5 o'clock, P. M.

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Thursday, 9th April, 1903.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *J. H. S. Sweet*.

Mr. *Green* presented a petition from *Casius M. Buck* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate the Kootenay Development and Tramway Company.

Laid on the table.

The following petitions were received:—

From *Cloud Elliott* and others, for leave to introduce a Private Bill to incorporate “The Adams River Railway Company.” (No. 9.)

From *R. L. Patterson* and others, for leave to introduce a Private Bill to incorporate "The British Columbia Northern and Mackenzie Valley Railway Company." (No. 12.)

From the Pacific Northern and Omineca Railway Company, for leave to introduce a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act. (No. 4.)

From *Jno. Irving* and others, for leave to introduce a Private Bill to incorporate "The Pacific Northern and Eastern Railway Company." (No. 3.)

Mr. *Hayward* presented the First Report from the Printing Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,

April 8th, 1903.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That the Committee met on April 8th.

On motion the following Returns were ordered to be printed:—

1. Abstract of Receipts and Expenditures for half-year ending December 31st, 1902.
2. Judgment of Privy Council, *Re Tomey Homma*.
3. Report of Coal Mines Explosions Committee.

W. H. HAYWARD,  
*Temporary Chairman.*

The Report was received.

The following Bills were introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be read a second time at the next sitting of the House:—

By the Hon. Mr. *Prentice*—Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to prevent the obstruction of Lakes and Water-courses."

By Mr. *Garden*—Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to amend Chapter 71, cited as the 'Special Surveys Act, 1899.'"

On the motion of Mr. *Neill*, seconded by Mr. *Hawthornthwaite*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all correspondence (including telegrams, if any) between any member or official of the Government and any other person, relative to the appointment of road foremen in the Alberni Electoral District, since the 1st of June, 1902.

Mr. *Garden* asked the Hon. the Provincial Secretary the following questions:—

1. Have any further communications taken place between this Government and the Dominion Government in reference to a resolution of this House of May 3rd, 1901, advocating the removal of the few Indians occupying a reserve on False Creek, within the limits of the City of Vancouver, on fair terms to the Indians interested?

2. If not, will the Government again bring the matter to the notice of the authorities at Ottawa, in order to assist the Vancouver representative at Ottawa to gain that object?

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

- "1. No.
- "2. Yes."

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

1. Has the whole loan authorised by the "British Columbia Loan Act, 1902," been placed?
2. If not, how much has been placed?
3. At what price, and on what terms, has it been placed?
4. What will be the net amount realised by the Province, after deducting brokerage and other expenses?

5. What amount has been received on account of said loan to 31st March, 1903?

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

- "1. Yes.
- "2. Full amount, £721,000 = \$3,496,850.

"3. At 92, bearing interest from 1st July, 1902, redeemable in 1941.

"Floated November 15th, 1902, terms as follows:—

	5 per cent., payable on application.
17	" " 28th November, 1902.
20	" " 30th January, 1903.
25	" " 30th March, 1903.
25	" " 29th May, 1903.

—  
92

"4. £642,645 = \$3,116,828.

"5. £348,679 = \$1,691,193."

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

Has the Road Superintendent for New Westminster District reported as to the amount of money required for roads and bridges in his district? If so, what is the amount estimated to be required for each of the different ridings?

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

"Yes.

"Richmond Riding—\$32,600.

"Dewdney " 26,450.

"Chilliwack " 13,685.

"Delta " 8,930."

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

1. The number of Japanese employed underground in the coal mines at Cumberland?

2. The number of Chinese employed underground in the coal mines at Cumberland?

3. The rate of wages paid Japanese and Chinese working "company work" underground in the coal mines at Cumberland?

4. The number of white men employed underground in the coal mines at Cumberland?

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

"During 1902:—

"1. 38.

"2. 132.

"3. \$1.25 to \$1.50.

"4. 566, including 12 boys."

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

1. Have any leases for foreshore been issued by this Government up to the present date (6th April, 1903), for the purpose of salmon fishing by traps or otherwise?

2. If so, how many have been issued, to whom, and for what locations?

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

"1. Yes.

"2. Twelve, as follows:—

Ed. Gordon	fronting on Section	7,	Otter District.
D. E. Campbell	" "	8	"
J. G. Cox	" "	7 and 8	"
F. Keeling	" "	23	"
B. C. Canning Co.	" "	9 and 10	"
W. Munsie	" "	90,	Renfrew District.
C. F. Todd	" "	52	"
A. E. Todd	" "	55	"
J. E. Kinsman	" "	79	"
H. Morris	Tumbo Island.		
F. W. Morris	" "		
F. W. Mitchell	" "		

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

How much of the \$522,520.44 unpaid taxes at 31st December, 1901, have been collected up to date, and under what heads?

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

“ Real Property Tax . . . . .	\$64,456 65
Personal Property Tax . . . . .	5,704 27
Wild Land Tax . . . . .	20,019 52
Income Tax . . . . .	960 25
	\$91,140 69

“The above return shows collections of arrears up to 28th February, 1903, the March returns not having yet been received.”

The following Papers were presented :—

By the Hon. the Provincial Secretary—Return of all correspondence between the Government of the Province of British Columbia, or any member thereof, and the Government of the Dominion of Canada, or any member thereof, touching the settlement of the Alaska boundary.

By the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works—Return of all correspondence (including telegrams, if any) between any member or official of the Government and any other person, relative to the appointment of road foremen in the Alberni Electoral District, since the 1st of June, 1902.

On the second reading of Bill (No. 11) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Coal Mines Regulation Act,’ ” a debate arose, which was adjourned until the next sitting of the House.

On the second reading of Bill (No. 15) intituled “An Act to further amend the ‘Coal Mines Regulation Act,’ ” a debate arose, which was adjourned until the next sitting of the House.

Mr. *Hall* presented a petition from *Wm. M. Le Poer Trench* and others, for leave to introduce a Private Bill to incorporate the Quatsino Railway Company.

Laid on the table.

The House took a recess from 3:40 to 4 P.M.

Mr. *Gilmour* presented the First Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows :—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
April 9th, 1903.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That they recommend that the time limited for the presentation of petitions for Private Bills, and the reception of same, be extended until the 17th day of April next and the 21st day of April next, respectively.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HUGH B. GILMOUR,  
*Chairman.*

The report was received and adopted.

Pursuant to Order, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the motion “That a Supply be granted to His Majesty.”

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

On the motion of the Hon. the Minister of Finance, seconded by the Hon. the Premier,—  
*Resolved*, That a Supply be granted to His Majesty, and that the Committee rise and report the Resolution.

The Resolution was reported to the House and adopted.

On the motion of the Hon. the Minister of Finance, seconded by the Hon. the Premier,—  
*Resolved*, That this House will, on Wednesday next, resolve itself into the Committee of Supply.

Bill (No. 2) intituled “An Act to Regulate Immigration into British Columbia” was committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered at the next sitting of the House.

Bill (No. 3) intituled “An Act relating to the employment on Works carried on under Franchises granted by Private Acts” was committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered at the next sitting of the House.

Bill (No. 8) intituled the “‘New Westminster Relief Act, 1899,’ Amendment Act, 1903,” was committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered at the next sitting of the House.

Bill (No. 9) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Dairy and Live Stock Associations Act,’ was committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered at the next sitting of the House.

Bill (No. 10) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Agricultural and Horticultural Societies Act,’” was committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered at the next sitting of the House.

Bill (No. 7) intituled “An Act to further amend the ‘Coal Mines Regulation Act’” was read a second time.

To be committed at the next sitting of the House.

*Resolved*, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o’clock on Tuesday, 14th April.

And then the House adjourned at 5 o’clock, P.M.

Tuesday, 14th April, 1903.

TWO O’CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *W. L. Clay*.

Mr. *Neill* presented a petition from *John Best* and others, of Alberni, re sale of timber leasehold of British Columbia Lumber Co. for arrears of rent.

Laid on the table.

The following petitions were received:—

From *Casius M. Buck* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate the Kootenay Development and Tramway Company. (No. 2.)

From *Wm. M. Le Poer Trench* and others, for leave to introduce a Private Bill to incorporate the Quatsino Railway Company. (No. 10.)



Mr. *Helmcken* presented the Second Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
April 14th, 1903.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That the Standing Orders in connection with the undermentioned petitions have been complied with:—

No. 3—Petition of Pacific Northern and Eastern Railway Company.

No. 4—Petition of Pacific Northern and Omineca Railway Company.

No. 7—Petition of Kootenay Central Railway Company.

No. 8—Petition of Kootenay, Cariboo and Pacific Railway Company.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. DALLAS HELMCKEN,  
*Chairman.*

The report was received.

Mr. *Helmcken* presented the Third Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
April 14th, 1903.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That the Standing Orders in connection with the under-mentioned Petition have not been complied with:—

No. 13—Petition of Vernon and Nelson Telephone Company, inasmuch as the petitioners did not deposit with the Clerk of the House, eight days before the opening of the Session, a printed copy of the Bill, a copy of the Petition to be presented to the House, together with the notices published, as required by Rule 57. Publication of the proper notices was duly complied with. Your Committee are of the opinion that as the proposed Bill is presumably in the public interest, the Standing Orders should be suspended so as to admit of the introduction of the proposed Bill, and beg to recommend the same accordingly.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. DALLAS HELMCKEN,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

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

Mr. *Helmcken* presented the Fourth Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows :

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
April 14th, 1903.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That the Standing Orders in connection with the under-mentioned Petition have not been complied with:—

No. 9—Adams River Railway Company, inasmuch as the Petition exceeds the notice in asking additional powers to build, construct, equip, maintain and operate telegraph and telephone lines and other works, as in the Petition is more particularly enumerated. Publication is duly complied with. Your Committee are of the opinion that as the proposed Bill is presumably in the public interest the petitioners should be confined to the objects set forth in the notice, and that the Standing Orders should be suspended so as to admit of the introduction of the proposed Bill.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. DALLAS HELMCKEN,  
*Chairman.*

The report was received.

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

The following Private Bills were introduced ;—

By Mr. *McPhillips*—Bill (No. 24) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Vernon and Nelson Telephone Company Act, 1891.’”

Read a first time and referred to the Private Bills Committee.

By Mr. *E. C. Smith*—Bill (No. 25) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Kootenay Central Railway Company Act, 1901.’”

Read a first time and referred to the Railway Committee.

By Mr. *E. C. Smith*—Bill (No. 26) intituled “An Act to incorporate the Kootenay, Cariboo and Pacific Railway Company.”

Read a first time and referred to the Railway Committee.

By Mr. *Mounce*—Bill (No. 27) intituled “An Act to incorporate the Adams River Railway Company.”

Read a first time and referred to the Railway Committee.

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

HENRI G. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE,  
*Lieutenant-Governor.*

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits herewith—

Estimates of sums required for the Service of the Province for the financial year ending 30th June, 1904 ;

Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure (No. 2) for the financial year ending 30th June, 1903 ; and

Schedule A, Unprovided Items of Expenditure for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1902,

and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*

*14th April, 1903.*

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

The following Bills were introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be read a second time at the next sitting of the House :—

By Mr. *McPhillips*—Bill (No. 22) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Children’s Protection Act of British Columbia.’”

By Mr. *McPhillips*—Bill (No. 23) intituled “An Act respecting the support of Illegitimate Children.”

By the Hon. Mr. *Eberts*—Bill (No. 18) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Benevolent Societies Act.’”

Mr. *Curtis* moved, seconded by Mr. *Hawthornthwaite*—

That it is in the interest of good government that there should be a dissolution of the Legislature and an appeal to the electorate immediately after the close of the present Session.

A point of order arose, upon which Mr. Speaker reserved his decision.

On the motion of Mr. *Curtis*, seconded by Mr. *Hawthornthwaite*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all correspondence between the Government, or any member thereof, and any other persons, with regard to the appointment of the Hon. T. Mayne Daly as King’s Counsel in the prosecution of one Collistro and one Beamish, in the summer of 1901, for intimidation.

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

1. Has the Commissioner appointed to investigate the charges made by the Member for Rossland made any report as to the result of his investigations ?
2. If so, why has not the report been brought down ?
3. If not, why has the Government paid for his services ?

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

- “ 1. No.
- “ 2. Answered by No. 1.
- “ 3. Was paid \$750 on account.”

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

1. To what account has the \$2,000 paid last year to Mr. *Greenshields*, in connection with the New Westminster Bridge, been charged?
2. Have any other moneys been paid to Mr. *Greenshields* since the said payment?
3. Is Mr. *Greenshields* at present in the employment of the Government in any capacity?
4. If so, what?

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

- “ 1. Bridge, Fraser River, at New Westminster.
- “ 2. No.
- “ 3 and 4. No.”

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

Is it the intention of the Government to introduce legislation, by amending the Railway Assessment Act, or otherwise, to provide that railway companies shall, within this Province, give free transportation over their respective railways to members of this House?

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

“ No.”

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

Is it intended to change the name of the Trail Creek Mining Division to the Rossland Mining Division?

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

“ No.”

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

Has the Government Agent or the Road Superintendent for the Slocan Riding reported as to the amounts of money required for roads, trails and bridges in that Riding, and, if so, what is the amount estimated, first, for maintenance and repairs; and, secondly, for new work?

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

- “ Yes. Government Agent.
- “ \$28,425. Maintenance.
- “ \$18,800. New work.”

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

1. Will a report of the recent visit of the Hon. Premier and of the Attorney-General to Ottawa be laid before the House?
2. If so, when?

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

- “ 1. Yes.
- “ 2. As soon as printed.”

The Reports on the following Bills were adopted, and the Bills read a third time and passed :—

(No. 2)—“ An Act to Regulate Immigration into British Columbia.”

(No. 3)—“ An Act relating to the employment on Works carried on under Franchises granted by Private Acts.”

(No. 8)—“ New Westminster Relief Act, 1899, Amendment Act, 1903.”

(No. 9)—“ An Act to amend the Dairy and Live Stock Associations Act.”

(No. 10)—“ An Act to amend the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies Act.”

Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act further to amend the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act,'" was committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act,'" was read a second time.  
*Ordered to be committed to-morrow.*

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

And the House adjourned at 5:30 o'clock, P.M.

## Wednesday, 15th April, 1903.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *W. L. Clay*.

The following petitions were laid on the table:—

By Mr. *Houston*—From *Wm. F. Teetzel* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate the Flathead Valley Railway Company. (No. 5.)

By Mr. *Houston*—From the Synod of the Diocese of Kootenay, for a Private Bill to incorporate the said Synod. (No. 14.)

The petition from *John Best* and others, of Alberni, *re* sale of timber leaseholds of British Columbia Lumber Company for arrears of rent, was received and *Ordered* to be printed.

Mr. *Helmcken* presented the Fifth Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
April 15th, 1903.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That the Standing Orders in connection with the under-mentioned Petition have been complied with:—

No. 1—Petition of *Morrissey, Fernie and Michel Railway Company*.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

*H. DALLAS HELMCKEN,*  
*Chairman.*

The report was received.

Mr. *Helmcken* presented the Sixth Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
April 15th, 1903.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That the Standing Orders in connection with the under-mentioned Petition have not been complied with:—

No. 12—Petition of *British Columbia Northern and Mackenzie Valley Railway Company*, inasmuch as the Petition exceeds the notice, in that it asks for power to build a railway to *Atlin City*. Publication was duly complied with. Your Committee are of the opinion that

the Petition should be restricted to the notices as published, and as the proposed Bill is presumably in the public interest, the Standing Orders should be suspended so as to admit of the introduction of the Bill, and beg to recommend the same accordingly.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. DALLAS HELMCKEN,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

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

Mr. *Helmcken* presented the Seventh Report of the Private Bills and Standing Orders Committee, as follows :—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
April 15th, 1903.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That the Standing Orders in connection with the undermentioned Petition have not been complied with :—

No. 10—Petition of the Quatsino Railway Company, inasmuch as the Petition exceeds the notice, in that it asks for power to construct “electric” line of railway. Publication is duly complied with. Your Committee are of the opinion that the Petition should be restricted to the notices as published, and as the proposed Bill is presumably in the public interest, the Standing Orders should be suspended so as to admit of the introduction of the Bill, and beg to recommend the same accordingly.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. DALLAS HELMCKEN,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

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

The following Private Bills were introduced :—

By Mr. *E. C. Smith*—Bill (No. 28) intituled “An Act to incorporate the Morrissey, Fernie and Michel Railway Company.”

Read a first time and referred to the Railway Committee.

By Mr. *Dickie*—Bill (No. 29) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Pacific Northern and Omineca Railway Act, 1900.’”

Read a first time and referred to the Railway Committee.

By Mr. *Dickie*—Bill (No. 30) intituled “An Act to incorporate the Pacific Northern and Eastern Railway Company.”

Read a first time and referred to the Railway Committee.

Mr. Speaker *Pooley* gave the following decision on the point of order raised yesterday :—

It was moved by Mr. *Smith Curtis*, seconded by Mr. *Hawthornthwaite*,—

“That it is in the interest of good Government that there should be a dissolution of the Legislature and an appeal to the electorate immediately after the close of the present Session.”

Hon. Mr. *Prentice* objected to the resolution on the ground that, if it passed, it would necessitate the expenditure of public moneys and, therefore, could not be put from the Chair unless recommended by the Crown.

Hon. Mr. *Prior* raised the further point against the resolution, viz., that it encroached upon the prerogative of the Crown.

On the first point, with reference to the necessary expenditure of public money. I do not think that this principle (as set out in Rule 45) would apply in the present instance, as any vote of want of confidence in the Government (which this House has undoubted right to pass at any time) might entail an expenditure of public money, as the Crown might dissolve the House, which would necessitate an appeal to the people.

As to the second point, that the resolution encroaches upon the prerogative of the Crown. The right of petitioning the Crown and Parliament for redress of grievances is acknowledged

as a fundamental principle of the Constitution (*May*, 493). A resolution of the Legislature is only another form of expressing the views of the people. The dissolution, or otherwise, of the House is entirely in the discretion of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, notwithstanding the remonstrance of one or both branches of the Legislature (*Todd's Parliamentary Government in the British Provinces*, p. 802, 2nd Edition).

I am, therefore, of opinion that the motion is in order. It is not mandatory, but suggestive, and does not encroach on the prerogative of the Crown.

Debate resumed on the main question.

On the question being proposed the House divided, and the names being called for were taken down as follows:—

YEAS :			
Messieurs			
<i>Gilmour,</i>	<i>Fulton,</i>	<i>Green,</i>	<i>Taylor,</i>
<i>Oliver,</i>	<i>Curtis,</i>	<i>McBride,</i>	<i>Kidd,</i>
<i>Hawthornthwaite,</i>	<i>Munro,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Houston,</i>
<i>Gifford,</i>	<i>Tallow,</i>	<i>McPhillips,</i>	<i>Paterson—17.</i>
<i>Garden,</i>			
NAYS :			
Messieurs			
<i>Smith, E. C.,</i>	<i>Prior,</i>	<i>Wells,</i>	<i>Rogers,</i>
<i>Neill,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>McInnes,</i>	<i>Hunter,</i>
<i>Hayward,</i>	<i>Smith, A. W.,</i>	<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>Dickie,</i>
<i>Helmcken,</i>	<i>Clifford,</i>	<i>Hall,</i>	<i>Mounce—17.</i>
<i>Prentice,</i>			

Mr. Speaker voted with the nays.

So the motion was negatived.

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

And the House adjourned at 5:50 o'clock, P.M.

Thursday, 16th April, 1903.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *W. L. Clay*.

The following petitions were received:—

From *Wm. F. Teetzal* and others, from a Private Bill to incorporate the Flathead Valley Railway Company. (No. 5.)

From the Synod of the Diocese of Kootenay, for a Private Bill to incorporate the said Synod. (No. 14.)

On the motion of Mr. *McPhillips*, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return giving the number of water records issued under the provisions of the "Water Clauses Consolidation Act, 1897," and as to whether any persons or companies are in default for record fees or rentals, the amount of same, and the names of any such persons or companies.

On the motion of Mr. *Neill*, seconded by Mr. *E. C. Smith*, it was *Resolved*,—

That, hereafter, not exceeding nine hours' work shall constitute a day's work for all foremen, workmen or labourers employed directly by the Government on roads, streets, wharves or bridges.

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

1. What steps have been taken by the Government to facilitate the removal of the Indians from the Songhees Indian Reserve?
2. What steps do the Government contemplate taking in obtaining the removal?

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

"1. Mr. *P. Hickey* was appointed on the 3rd of January last to examine 16 pieces of property that were offered to the Government as suitable sites for the Songhees Indians. He reported on same some two weeks ago.

"2. Government propose trying to arrange for the removal of the Indians to some one of these sites, if possible, at an early date."

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

1. Have any of the officers in the Registry Office at Vancouver sent in their resignation within the past three months?
2. If so, who are they, and what action has the Government taken to fill said vacancies?

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

"1. Yes; one.

"2. Mr. *Hartley*, but the resignation was withdrawn."

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

1. Has any portion of the \$522,520 of taxes in arrears on December 31st, 1902, been commuted?
2. If so, what amount of such arrears was originally due, and for how much was it commuted?

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

"1. Yes.

"2. The total amount commuted is less than \$3,000. It would take some time to prepare an exact statement."

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

1. What payments, if any, have been made on account of the Fraser River Bridge at New Westminster?
2. Are the payments included in the returns of expenditure to December 31st, 1902, and, if so, under what head?

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

"1. The payments made up to 31st December, 1902, amount to \$106,225.50.

"2. Yes, under the head of Roads, Streets and Bridges."

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

1. How many applications for licences to prospect for coal or petroleum in Block 4,593, South-East Kootenay, have been made to date?
2. How many of such applications have been granted, and what are the names and residences of the licensees?
3. As the reserve placed upon such Lot 4,593 in August, 1890, does not exclude prospecting for and locating coal or petroleum, why have applications for such purposes been refused?
4. Why is the said reserve still maintained with regard to these lands?
5. When is such reserve to be taken off?

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

"1. 153.

"2. None.

"3. As a matter of Government policy.

"4. As a matter of Government policy.

"5. As soon as it is considered that the public interests will be served by so doing."

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

1. Is it the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill this Session in reference to income tax, as promised a joint committee of railway employees by you last Session?

2. If not, why not?

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

“1. I do not think it necessary to introduce legislation on this subject.

“2. The Rules and Regulations prescribed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to determine the nature and kind of deductions to be allowed from the gross income, in arriving at the assessable income, fully meet the requirements of the railway employees.”

The adjourned debate on the second reading of Bill (No. 11) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Coal Mines Regulation Act,’” was resumed.

The Hon. Mr. *McInnes* moved the adjournment of the debate, which was carried on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

<i>Gilmour,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Smith, A. W.,</i>	<i>Dunsmuir,</i>
<i>Stables,</i>	<i>Helmcken,</i>	<i>Clifford,</i>	<i>Hall,</i>
<i>Smith, E. C.,</i>	<i>Prentice,</i>	<i>Houston,</i>	<i>Rogers,</i>
<i>Neill,</i>	<i>Prior,</i>	<i>Wells,</i>	<i>Dickie,</i>
<i>Hayward,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>McInnes,</i>	<i>Mounce—20.</i>

NAYS :

Messieurs

<i>Oliver,</i>	<i>Fulton,</i>	<i>McBride,</i>	<i>Taylor,</i>
<i>Hawthornthwaite,</i>	<i>Munro,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Kidd,</i>
<i>Gifford,</i>	<i>Green,</i>	<i>McPhillips,</i>	<i>Paterson—13.</i>
<i>Garden,</i>			

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

No. 14—“An Act to amend the ‘Medical Act, 1898.’”

No. 22—“An Act to amend the ‘Children’s Protection Act of British Columbia.’”

No. 23—“An Act respecting the support of Illegitimate Children.”

Bill (No. 7) intituled “An Act to further amend the ‘Coal Mines Regulation Act,’” was read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 4) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Assessment Act.’” was 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.