

Monday, 1st March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
February 27th, 1897.

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 Petitions have been complied with:—

No. 34—Petition of the Grand Forks Water, Power and Light Company, Limited.

No. 36—Petition of Fort Steele and Golden Railway Company.

No. 43—Petition of Delta, New Westminster and Eastern Railway Company.

No. 46—Petition of Stikeen and Teslin Lake Railway, except in so far as the said Petition asks for power to build branch line to Dease Lake.

With reference to the Petition of the Yukon Mining, Trading and Transportation Company (Foreign), presented to the House on the 25th day of February, your Committee beg to report that after hearing the statement of Paris Ivan Packard, the agent for the said Company, as to the cause which prevented the said Company complying with the Standing Rules as regards the presentation of Petitions, is of the opinion that the Standing Orders should be suspended, so as to admit of the Petition referred to in the said Petition being presented, and beg to recommend the same accordingly.

J. P. BOOTH,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 1st, 1897.

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 following Petitions have not been complied with:—

No. 39—Petition of Bedlington and Nelson Railway Company.

No. 41—Petition of Chester Glass.

J. P. BOOTH,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

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

Whereas this House learns with much regret that the Government of the United States of America intend enacting an alien labour law containing a provision known as the "Corliss Amendment," inimical to the best interests of labour :

And whereas it is within the power of this Legislature to pass measures relating to the tenure of land and the regulation of labour, and more particularly affecting the citizens of the United States of America, which may result in disturbing the harmonious relations at present existing between the loyal subjects of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria and the citizens of the United States of America :

And whereas it is undesirable to pass any such laws, although it will be necessary, so far as lies within the power of this Legislature, to protect the citizens of this Province in the event of such labour law becoming operative :

Be it therefore Resolved, That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to communicate with the Government of the Dominion of Canada, urging upon that Government the desirability of making such representations to the President of the United States of America as will prevent the passage of said alien labour law, and thus render protective measures by this Legislature unnecessary.

Mr. *Kellie* moved in amendment, seconded by Major *Mutter*,—

To strike out the balance of the Resolution after the words "United States of America," in the eighth line of the Resolution, and insert in lieu thereof:—

"And whereas it may be desirable to pass such laws as will protect the citizens of this Province, in the event of such 'Corliss Amendment' becoming operative :

"Be it therefore Resolved, That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to communicate with the Government of the Dominion of Canada, urging upon that Government the desirability of passing such legislation as will secure to the labouring classes of this Dominion the same amount of protection that it is purposed to secure to the labouring classes of the United States, and place the same restrictions upon all citizens of foreign countries coming into this Dominion from the United States as will be placed upon all those, not being citizens of the United States, desirous of obtaining employment in the United States, should the said 'Corliss Amendment' become law."

Motion and amendment withdrawn with leave.

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

That an Order of this House be granted for a Return of the copy of the securities stated by the Hon. the Provincial Secretary to have been deposited with the Government on the 10th January, 1891, and regularly renewed, for the faithful performance of the duties of Official Administrators of Intestate Estates—*vide* Journals of B. C. House of Assembly, 1895, page 87.

A debate arose, which was adjourned until Thursday next.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for 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.

On the motion of Mr. *Graham*, seconded by Mr. *Cotton*, it was Resolved,—

That an Order of this House be granted for 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.

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

Whereas, in consequence of the "Sayward Mill and Timber Company, Limited," of *Victoria*, having stopped payment, various men in their employ have been unable to obtain payment of the wages due them; and

Whereas there is sufficient funds in the hands of the liquidator to pay such wages, but the said liquidator is unable to pay such wages out of said funds on account of the claim made by the Government for unpaid rental dues payable under certain leases; and

Whereas such leases, it is stated, have been hypothecated to one of the banks as security for such advances; and

Whereas such leases contain provisions for forfeiture in the event of the non-compliance with the conditions on which they are granted;

Therefore, this House is of the opinion that the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works should insist upon immediate payment, by the present holders of such leases, of all rent and dues payable on same, under pain of cancellation in the event of refusal, and thus allow funds in hands of the liquidator to be applied to the payment of wages due.

Withdrawn with leave.

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 His Honour to send down to this House a copy of the contract relating to the building of the *Point Ellice Bridge*, which collapsed last year, and of the evidence given before the Coroner, and the findings of the jury on the holding of the investigation into the cause of the accident which occurred on the 26th day of May last past, together with the reports (if any) made during the time the bridge was under the control of the Government, by any officer of the Government or any person for the Government, relative to the strength and carrying capacity of such bridge.

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

That a Select Committee, consisting of Messrs. *Booth*, *Mutter*, *Cotton*, *Sword*, the Speaker, and the mover, be appointed to revise the Rules and Orders of this House, with power to report.

On the motion of Mr. *Semlin*, seconded by Mr. *Cotton*, 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 person or persons, in reference to the rental of the Government Reserve in *Pleasant Valley*, *Cariboo District*.

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

That in the opinion of this House, more efficient means should be adopted for the preservation of our forests from fire, by some system of patrol by the Provincial police during the months of July, August and September, or during such dry spells as render such precaution necessary.

Negatived.

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

What right (if any) have the Government of British Columbia to the minerals which were reserved to the Hudson's Bay Company in lands sold by them to settlers on *Vancouver Island*?

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

"The Hudson's Bay Company held, by Letters Patent from Her Majesty, dated 13th January, 1849, the whole of *Vancouver Island*, together with all mines royal, &c.

"On the 3rd April, 1867, the Company reconveyed unto Her Majesty all of the said island, with the mines royal, &c., &c., excepting thereout certain lands in *Victoria City*, and all lands in *Victoria District* which had been sold by them prior to 1st January, 1862, together with certain other parcels of land in *Victoria District* held by the Company for their own use.

"The Company's deeds of lands sold by them to individuals reserves the mines royal and right of entry for mining, &c., to the Company."

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

Is Dr. *Watt*, the Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, the same Dr. *Watt* who is in charge of the Dominion Quarantine Station at *Williams Head*? If so, can the Provincial Board expect to be informed of any laxity in enforcing the rules at said station?

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

"Dr. *Watt*, who was formerly the Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, is the Dr. *Watt* in charge of the Dominion Station at *Williams Head*."

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

Has the Government or any member thereof taken any steps (and if so, what?) with the Corporation of the City of *Victoria*, or any member thereof, and the Consolidated Railway Company, or any officer thereof, leading to or suggesting a settlement of the claims of all persons who sustained injury or damage by reason of the *Point Ellice Bridge* accident, on the 26th May last?

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

“No.”

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* presented a Return of the dues collected on cordwood in the different districts in the Province, as provided for in the Land Act of 1896.

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

1. The number of Certificates of Title which have been issued in the several Land Registry Offices since the “Land Registry Act” came into force.

2. The number of Certificates of Indefeasible Title which have been issued at the same offices during the same period.

The following Private Bills were introduced, read a first time and referred to the Railway Committee :—

By Mr. *Rogers*—Bill (No. 19) intituled “An Act to amend the Cariboo Railway Company’s Consolidated Act, 1894.”

By Mr. *Rogers*—Bill (No. 20) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Barkerville, Ashcroft and Cariboo Railway Company.”

By Mr. *Hume*—Bill (No. 21) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Kaslo and Lard-Duncan Railway Company.”

By Mr. *Hume*—Bill (No. 22) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the East Kootenay Railway Company.”

By Mr. *Booth*—Bill (No. 23) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern Railway and Navigation Company.”

By Mr. *Irving*—Bill (No. 24) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Cassiar Railway.”

By Mr. *Helmcken*—Bill (No. 25) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Victoria, Vancouver and Westminster Railway Company Act, 1894.’”

By Mr. *Helmcken*—Bill (No. 26) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Delta, New Westminster and Eastern Railway Company Act, 1894.’”

By Mr. *Helmcken*—Bill (No. 27) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Stikeen and Teslin Railway, Navigation and Colonization Company.”

The following Private Bills were introduced, read a first time and referred to the Private Bills Committee :—

By Mr. *Cotton*—Bill (No. 28) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver-Nanaimo Railway Transfer Company.”

By Mr. *Bryden*—Bill (No. 29) intituled “An Act respecting the Incorporation of the Cumberland and Union Water-Works Company.”

By Mr. *Semlin*—Bill (No. 30) intituled “An Act respecting the Consolidation of the Thompson River Mining Company.”

By Mr. *Kellie*—Bill (No. 31) intituled “An Act respecting the Incorporation of the Revelstoke Water-Works, Electric Light and Power Company, Limited.”

By Mr. *Hume*—Bill (No. 32) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Kootenay Electric Company, Limited.”

By Mr. *Hume*—Bill (No. 33) intituled “An Act to authorise the British Columbia Power and Light Company to develop water-power on the Pend d’Oreille River, and to instal an Electric Plant for the purpose of supplying Electric Light and Power to the Mines, Cities, Towns and Villages in West Kootenay.”

By Mr. *Hume*—Bill (No. 34) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Brandon Water and Light Company, Limited.”

By Mr. *Hume*—Bill (No. 35) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Kootenay Power Company’s Construction Act.’”

By Mr. *Graham*—Bill (No. 36) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Greenwood City Water-Works Company.”

By Mr. *Helmcken*—Bill (No. 37) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Grand Forks Water, Power and Light Company, Limited.”

By Mr. *Cotton*—Bill (No. 38) intituled “An Act respecting the Cottonwood River (B. C.) Alluvial Gold Mining Company, Limited (Foreign).”

Bill (No. 7) intituled “An Act to establish Farmers’ Institutes,” was again committed. Progress reported.

Leave 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 5:30 o’clock, p. m.

Tuesday, 2nd March, 1897.

TWO O’CLOCK, P. M.

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

The following Petitions were presented, received, and *Ordered* to be printed :—

By Mr. *Graham*, from *Chas. Van Ness* and others, residents of *Grand Forks*, opposing passage of Bill to incorporate the *City of Grand Forks*.

By Mr. *Kellie*, from *J. D. Graham* and others, residents of *Revelstoke*, in favour of the passage of Bill to incorporate “The Revelstoke Water-Works, Electric Light and Power Company, Limited.”

The Report on Bill (No. 15) intituled “An Act to accelerate the Incorporation of Towns and Cities,” was considered.

Mr. *Rogers* moved—To amend section 11 of the said Act by inserting after the word “may,” in the first line thereof, the words “subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.”

Negatived on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

Huff,
Smith,
Mutter,

Turner,
Eberts,

Bryden,
Rogers,

Irving,
Braden—9.

NAYS :

Messieurs

<i>Kitchen,</i>	<i>Sword,</i>	<i>Helmcken,</i>	<i>Adams,</i>
<i>Kennedy,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Stoddart,</i>
<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Cotton,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Walkem,</i>
<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Graham,</i>	<i>Rithet,</i>	<i>McGregor—18.</i>
<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Kellie,</i>		

Mr. *Rogers* moved—To amend sub-section (a) of section 12 of the said Act by adding the following words :—

“And it shall also be lawful for the said cities or any of them, and they are and each of them is hereby empowered to construct, equip, operate and maintain a system of electric lighting for domestic and other purposes within and about the said municipalities or any of them.”

Carried.

Mr. *Rogers* moved—To amend section 12 of the said Act by adding the following sub-section :—

“(b.) Provided that before the said cities, or any of them, shall exercise the powers by this section conferred, they shall purchase the whole plant or system of any existing persons or corporations now supplying water or light to the said cities, or any of them, or any of the inhabitants thereof, in accordance with the provisions of and upon the terms relating to purchase by municipalities of the plant or system of such persons or corporations, as set forth in any special Act or Acts authorising any such persons or corporations to supply such water or light to such cities or the inhabitants thereof, or in the event of no such provisions being contained in such special Act, then at a figure to be determined by arbitration, in accordance with the provisions of the ‘Arbitration Act, 1893’: Provided, however, in arriving at the amount of compensation to be paid to such persons or corporations, the arbitrators shall in nowise take into consideration the value of the rights, powers, or privileges of the Company.”

Negatived.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* moved—To amend Schedule, description of “The City of Nelson,” by adding thereto the following words :—“and Lot 150, Group 1.”

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* moved—To amend section 13 in line 6, by inserting after the word “section” the figure “1.”

Carried.

Mr. *Helmcken* moved—To amend section 8 in line 2, by inserting after the word “persons” the words “who are property owners and British subjects.”

Negatived.

Mr. *Helmcken* moved—To amend section 8, line 3, by inserting the words “or carried on a business” after the word “resided.”

Negatived.

Report, as amended, adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 9) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Lillooet, Fraser River and Cariboo Gold Fields (Limited) Act, 1896,’” was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed to-morrow.

The Hon. Attorney-General presented the following papers :—

A copy of the contract relating to the building of the *Point Ellice Bridge*, which collapsed last year, and of the evidence given before the Coroner, and the findings of the jury on the holding of the investigation into the cause of the accident which occurred on the 26th day of May last past, together with the reports (if any) made during the time the bridge was under the control of the Government, by any officer of the Government or any person for the Government, relative to the strength and carrying capacity of such bridge.

Resolved, That seven form a quorum of the Railway Committee.

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

And then the House adjourned at 4:20 o'clock, p. m.

Wednesday, 3rd March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

Mr. *Irving* presented a Petition from "The Yukon Mining, Trading and Transportation Company" (Foreign), for a Private Bill (*re* railway from *Taku Inlet* to *Teslin Lake*).
Received.

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

That the Twelfth Report of the Private Bills Committee be adopted.

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

That an Order of this House be granted for 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. 9) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Lillooet, Fraser River and Cariboo Gold Fields, Limited, Act, 1896,'" was committed, with Mr. *Huff* in the Chair.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

The Order for the second reading of Bill (No. 14) intituled "An Act to impose certain restrictions upon the granting of Liquor Licences in Rural Districts," was discharged and the Bill withdrawn.

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

And then the House adjourned at 3:20 o'clock, p. m.

Thursday, 4th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* presented a Return showing how many of the settlers on what are known as the "*Burnaby Small Holdings*" have complied with the conditions on which they were allowed to enter upon the lands; also, for any reports relating to these settlers and their holdings which the Government has in its possession.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 4th, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Your Committee recommend that the time limited for the reception of Reports upon Private Bills be extended for two weeks from the 8th day of March, instant.

J. P. BOOTH,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

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

Whether the deposit of *J. W. Carey*, who ran in opposition to Hon. *D. M. Eberts* for the District of *South Victoria* in the Provincial Election, 1894, was forfeited?

If not, why not?

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

“Yes; and the amount (\$200) paid into the Treasury by the Returning Officer on the 20th of August, 1894.”

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 further adjourned until to-morrow.

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

That an Order of this House be granted for a Return of the copy of the securities stated by the Hon. the Provincial Secretary to have been deposited with the Government on the 10th January, 1891, and regularly renewed, for the faithful performance of the duties of Official Administrators of Intestate Estates—*vide Journals of B. C. House of Assembly, 1895, page 87*—

was resumed, and the question resolved in the affirmative.

The Report on Bill (No. 9) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Lillooet, Fraser River and Cariboo Gold Fields, Limited, Act, 1896,’” was considered.

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

To add as new sections, to be known as 2, 3 and 4, the following :—

“2. This Act is passed upon the express understanding that no Chinese or Japanese shall be employed in or about or concerning any works or services authorised by this Act, or required by the Company to be done or performed. In the event of any Chinese or Japanese being employed by the Company, the Company shall be liable, upon summary conviction before any two Justices of the Peace, or functionary having the power of two Justices of the Peace, upon the oath or affirmation of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to a penalty not exceeding twenty-five dollars, nor less than ten dollars, for every Chinese or Japanese employed; and in default of the immediate payment of the penalty, the same may be levied by distress and the sale of the goods and chattels of the Company; and in the event of any Chinese or Japanese being employed by any of the Company’s contractors or sub-contractors, contrary to the provisions of this Act, then any such contractor or sub-contractor shall be liable on summary conviction as aforesaid, to a penalty not exceeding twenty-five dollars, nor less than ten dollars, for every Chinese or Japanese employed; and in case of default in immediate payment of such last-mentioned penalty, the same may be recovered by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the offender; and in default of sufficient distress, the offender may be committed to any gaol or place of confinement situate within the territorial jurisdiction of the convicting Justices, and there imprisoned for any term not exceeding thirty days; and any Director or officer of the Company who causes or procures any Chinese or Japanese to be employed, contrary to the provisions of this Act, or permits or connives at such employment, shall be liable, upon summary conviction as aforesaid, to the like penalties as hereinbefore in this section provided, recoverable in manner secondly hereinbefore mentioned.

“3. The offender shall be liable to separate and successive penalties for each and every day during which any Chinese or Japanese shall be employed.

“4. The term ‘Chinese,’ wherever used in this Act, shall mean any native of the Chinese Empire or its dependencies not born of British parents, and shall include any person of the Chinese race; and the term ‘Japanese,’ wherever used in this Act, shall mean any native of the Japanese Empire or its dependencies not born of British parents, and shall include any person of the Japanese race.”

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

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

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor having entered the House, and being seated in the Chair,

Mr. *Fell*, the Clerk of the House, read the titles to the following Bills:—

An Act to specifically correct an ambiguity in the "British Columbia Southern Railway Aid Act, 1894," by striking out the words "and (c)" in line 6 of section 2, and inserting the word "and" between "(a) (b)," in the same line.

An Act to accelerate the Incorporation of Towns and Cities.

His Honour was pleased, in Her Majesty's name, to give assent to these Bills.

The same was announced by the Clerk of the House, in the following words:—

"In Her Majesty's name, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor doth assent to these Bills."

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* presented the Annual Report of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for the year ending 31st December, 1896.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 4th, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

That with reference to Petition (No. 48) of the Yukon Mining, Trading and Transportation Company (Foreign), your Committee find that the Standing Rules have not been complied with, in so far as the time limited for publishing the notices has not expired; but as the proposed Bill is presumably in the public interest, your Committee is of the opinion that the Standing Rules should be suspended, so as to admit of the Bill being introduced, and recommend the same accordingly.

The Report was received.

J. P. BOOTH,
Chairman.

Mr. *McGregor* presented a Petition from *A. Haslam* and others, for leave to present a Private Bill *re Alberni and Nanaimo Railway*, the time limited for that purpose having expired.

Received and referred to the Private Bills Committee.

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

And then the House adjourned at 4 o'clock, p. m.

Monday, 8th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 8th, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

That with respect to Petition No. 49, your Committee is of the opinion that the Standing Orders should be suspended so as to allow the Bill for the incorporation of the Nanaimo-Alberni Railway Company to be introduced, and beg to recommend the same accordingly.

Your Committee also beg to report that they find the preamble of the under-mentioned Bills proved, viz. :

No. 10—An Act to Incorporate the West Kootenay Power and Light Company, Limited;
 No. 18—An Act to Incorporate the Revelstoke, Trout Lake and Big Bend Telephone Company, Limited;
 and submit the same with amendments.

J. P. BOOTH,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

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

That the Fourteenth Report of the Committee on Private Bills be adopted, and the time limited for the reception of Reports on Private Bills be extended to the 22nd March, instant.

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

And then the House adjourned at 2:15 o'clock, p. m.

Tuesday, 9th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

Mr. Hume presented a Petition from A. St. G. Hamersley and others, for leave to reinstate and proceed with a Private Bill to incorporate "The Bedlington and Nelson Railway Company," notwithstanding the report of the Private Bills Committee that the Standing Orders had not been complied with.

Received and referred to the Private Bills Committee.

Mr. Cotton presented a Petition from D. McGillivray and others, free miners of British Columbia, opposing grants of water privileges in Kootenay District to private companies.

Received and *Ordered* to be printed.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
 9th March, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That at a meeting held this 5th day of March, 1897, the following papers were presented and ordered to be printed, viz. :—

1. Return, dues collected on cordwood in the different districts of the Province, "Land Act, 1896."
2. Return, certificates of title and number of certificates of indefeasible title issued since Act came into force.
3. Return, Burnaby Small Holdings, particulars of.
 All of which are respectfully submitted.

J. M. MUTTER,
Chairman of Committee.

The Report was received.

Mr. Speaker presented the Annual Report on the Legislative Library.

On the motion of Mr. *Kennedy*, Bill (No. 41) intituled "An Act to further amend the Pharmacy Act, 1891," was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time on Monday next.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* 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 herewith a Bill 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," and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
8th March, 1897.

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

The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, with Mr. *Booth* in the Chair.

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

Resolved, That the Committee rise and report to the House, recommending the introduction of a 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."

The Committee reported the Resolution and the Bill.

Report adopted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

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

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

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

That the House do forthwith resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the advisability of introducing a Bill for placing restrictions on the granting of licences in rural districts.

House in Committee, with Mr. *Hume* in the Chair.

Resolved, That the Committee rise and report to the House, recommending that a Bill (No. 14) intituled "An Act to impose certain restrictions upon the granting of Liquor Licences in Rural Districts," be introduced.

Report adopted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time on Monday next.

Mr. *Forster* moved the following Resolution:—

Whereas, in the present stage of mining development in British Columbia, the construction of railways has become an imperative necessity; and

Whereas the construction of a railway from the coast to *Southern Kootenay*, and on through the *Crow's Nest Pass*, has become particularly desirable; and

Whereas it is deemed to be in the interest of the people that such railway should be constructed and owned by the Government; and

Whereas this Province annually pays into the Dominion Treasury a sum several hundred thousand dollars in excess of the sum returned to it in subsidies, public works, and its share of the cost of administration; therefore,

Be it Resolved, That in the opinion of this House the Government of British Columbia should enter into negotiations with the Dominion Government to secure the construction by that Government, or by that Government with the assistance of this Province, of a railway from the coast to the *Crow's Nest Pass*; and that, failing the acceptance by the Dominion Government of this policy, the Provincial Government should endeavour to obtain from the Dominion Government such assistance as will enable the Province to build the railway as a Provincial work, without straining its resources too heavily.

Mr. Speaker ruled the motion out of order.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for 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 to embrace a period between June 30th, 1896, and 31st December, 1896.

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

That an Order of this House be granted for 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.

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

That an Order of this House be granted for a copy of all correspondence in connection with the resignation of Dr. *Watt* as Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, and of all applications for the position.

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

That an Order of this House be granted for a Return showing the fees and emoluments received by all sheriffs during the financial year ending 30th June, 1896; such Return to include all fees received by them, their deputies and bailiffs, from procedure under executions, chattel mortgages, bills of sale, and distress warrants.

On the motion of Mr. *Booth*—The Fifteenth Report of the Committee on Private Bills was adopted, and the Standing Rules and Orders suspended, to enable the Bill entitled “The Yukon Mining, Trading and Transportation Company (Foreign)” to be introduced.

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

1. Have any applications for record of mineral claims on land granted by the Hudson's Bay Company to settlers on *Vancouver Island*, the minerals in which have been reserved by the Hudson's Bay Company, been refused?

2. If so, what are the names of the applicants and the date of the application?

3. And on what grounds on which such application (if any) were refused?

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

“1. Yes.

“2. *F. G. Richards* and others in 1891, and *Alfred Deakin* in February, 1897.

“3. On the ground that the property was not land whereon the right to enter and mine for gold and silver had been reserved to the Crown and its licensees.”

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented a Return of the copy of the securities stated by the Hon. the Provincial Secretary to have been deposited with the Government on the 10th January, 1891, and regularly renewed, for the faithful performance of the duties of Official Administrators of Intestate Estates—*vide* Journals of B. C. House of Assembly, 1895, page 87.

Also, a Return to an Address presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to cause to be laid before the House copies of all correspondence between his Government, or any member thereof, and any person or persons, company or companies, in relation to the proposed construction of railways from the coast to the *Columbia River*, or to any part of the *Kootenay District*.

The Report on Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Lillooet, Fraser River and Cariboo Gold Fields, Limited, Act, 1896,'" was further considered.

The adjourned debate was resumed on Mr. *Macpherson's* motion to add as new sections, to be known as 2, 3 and 4, the following:—

"2. This Act is passed upon the express understanding that no Chinese or Japanese shall be employed in or about or concerning any works or services authorised by this Act, or required by the Company to be done or performed. In the event of any Chinese or Japanese being employed by the Company, the Company shall be liable, upon summary conviction before any two Justices of the Peace, or functionary having the power of two Justices of the Peace, upon the oath or affirmation of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to a penalty not exceeding twenty-five dollars, nor less than ten dollars, for every Chinese or Japanese employed; and in default of the immediate payment of the penalty, the same may be levied by distress and the sale of the goods and chattels of the Company; and in the event of any Chinese or Japanese being employed by any of the Company's contractors or sub-contractors, contrary to the provisions of this Act, then any such contractor or sub-contractor shall be liable on summary conviction as aforesaid, to a penalty not exceeding twenty-five dollars, nor less than ten dollars, for every Chinese or Japanese employed; and in case of default in immediate payment of such last-mentioned penalty, the same may be recovered by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the offender; and in default of sufficient distress, the offender may be committed to any gaol or place of confinement situate within the territorial jurisdiction of the convicting Justices, and there imprisoned for any term not exceeding thirty days; and any Director or officer of the Company who causes or procures any Chinese or Japanese to be employed, contrary to the provisions of this Act, or permits or connives at such employment, shall be liable, upon summary conviction as aforesaid, to the like penalties as hereinbefore in this section provided, recoverable in manner secondly hereinbefore mentioned.

"3. The offender shall be liable to separate and successive penalties for each and every day during which any Chinese or Japanese shall be employed.

"4. The term 'Chinese,' wherever used in this Act, shall mean any native of the Chinese Empire or its dependencies not born of British parents, and shall include any person of the Chinese race; and the term 'Japanese,' wherever used in this Act, shall mean any native of the Japanese Empire or its dependencies not born of British parents, and shall include any person of the Japanese race."

Mr. Speaker ruled the motion out of order.

Report adopted.

To be read a third time on Thursday next.

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 again adjourned until Friday next.

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

And then the House adjourned at 3:15 o'clock, p. m.

Wednesday, 10th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

Mr. *Kellie* presented a Petition from *Joseph Bowell*, secretary of a citizens' meeting held at *Rossland*, opposing passage of Companies Bill.

Received and *Ordered* to be printed and referred to the Select Committee to which the Companies Bill was referred.

Mr. *Helmcken* presented a Petition from the "Local Council of Women of Vancouver," re amendment to the Pharmacy Act.

Received and *Ordered* to be printed.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
VICTORIA, 10th March, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

That they have considered Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Cassiar Railway Company." They find the preamble proved, and herewith submit the Bill with amendments.

R. P. RITHET,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

On the motion of Mr. *Kennedy*, Bill (No. 42) intituled "An Act to further amend the 'Fire Insurance Policy Act, 1893,'" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time on Monday next.

Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the West Kootenay Power and Light Company, Limited," was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

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 read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

On the motion of the Hon. Colonel *Baker*, 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 introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

On the motion of Mr. *McGregor*, Private Bill (No. 44) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Nanaimo-Alberni Railway Company," was introduced and read a first time and referred to the Railway Committee.

Mr. *Williams* was appointed a member of the Railway Committee, in the place of Mr. *Semlin*, 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 between his Government and the Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Station, and between his Government and the Corporation of the *City of Victoria*, relative to the establishment of a residence for the Admiral commanding this station.

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* presented a Return of copies of all correspondence, including surveyors' reports, relating to any lands alienated or leased under the provisions of the "Land Act, 1896."

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

And then the House adjourned at 3 o'clock, p. m.

Thursday, 11th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

Mr. *Rithet* presented a Petition from *A. H. Wescott* and others, resident householders of *Steveston*, *re* liquor licensing laws.

Received and *Ordered* to be printed.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* presented a Return of copies of all correspondence in connection with the resignation of Dr. *Watt* as Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, and of all applications for the position.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
VICTORIA, 11th March 1897.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That they have considered the various Bills submitted to them, and beg leave to report the preambles proved of—

1. Bill (No. 22), "An Act to Incorporate the East Kootenay Railway Company," which is submitted with amendments.
2. Bill (No. 23), "An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern Railway and Navigation Company," which is submitted with amendments.
3. Bill (No. 27), "An Act to Incorporate the Stikeen and Teslin Railway, Navigation and Colonization Company," which is submitted with amendments.
4. Bill (No. 8), "An Act to Incorporate the Lardeau Railway Company," which is submitted with amendments.

R. P. RITHET,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 11th, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That with reference to Petition No. 50, the Standing Orders have not been complied with; but as the proposed Bill is presumably in the public interest, and in view of the fact that counsel for the Petitioners, and Mr. Hamersley for himself and his co-petitioners, have undertaken to comply with any term as to security for the commencement and completion of the enterprise which the Committee should see fit to impose, such term to be inserted in the Bill, your Committee is of the opinion that the Standing Orders should be suspended so as to admit of the introduction of the proposed Bill, and that the amount of security be fixed at not less than \$3,000 (three thousand dollars).

Your Committee beg leave to recommend the same accordingly.

J. P. BOOTH,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

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

That an Order of this House be granted for a copy of all correspondence *re* the granting of power to run trains on the *Columbia and Western Railway* and the *Red Mountain Railway*.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for 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. *Cotton* moved, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*,—

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.

A debate arose, which was adjourned until Monday next.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for 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.

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

1. Are pre-emption claims which were offered for sale by the Government for unpaid taxes, and which were not sold, now open to be pre-empted by others?

2. Is it the intention of the Government to allow pre-emption claims so offered for sale to be re-pre-empted by others without holding such new pre-emptors liable for previous unpaid taxes on such pre-emptions?

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

"1. No; except in cases where pre-emption records have been cancelled for non-fulfilment of the provisions of the Land Act.

"2. New pre-emptions are not liable for the payment of arrears of taxes accrued during a former tenure of the land."

On the motion of Mr. *Irving*, Private 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 introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Railway Committee.

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 committed, with Mr. *Stoddart* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* presented the following Returns :—

A Return of all the correspondence between the Minister of Finance, or any official of the Treasury Department, and the manager of the *Vancouver World* newspaper, relative to the advertising of the Provincial tax sale in the district of *New Westminster*.

A Return showing the space occupied in the *World* by the said tax sale in inches and lines; the number of insertions given thereto and the rate per line for the space occupied, charged and paid therefor by the Government, as well as other services rendered in connection with the aforesaid sale in the *Vancouver World* newspaper and the *British Columbia Gazette*, as well as any correspondence which may have passed between any member of the Government, the Queen's Printer, and the manager or proprietors of the *Vancouver World*, in connection with the printing and publication of the tax sale referred to; also all correspondence between the officials of the Treasury and any other person in relation to the cost of advertising in the *World* in connection with the sale.

A Return showing all transactions of the Provincial Government with any person or persons, company or companies, with respect to the "Creameries Act, 1896"; said Return to furnish (a) the names of all persons or companies to whom or which aid has been extended; (b) amount of said aid; (c) location of any such creamery.

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.

Friday, 12th March, 1897.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
VICTORIA, 12th 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. 21) "An Act to Incorporate the Kaslo and Lardo-Duncan Railway Company," which is submitted with amendments.

R. P. RITHET,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

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

1. Did the Government in selling real property in *New Westminster District* for taxes, at the recent tax sale, sell the same subject to the payment by the purchasers, or their assigns, of such municipal taxes as were due on said property?

2. Did the receipt given purchasers specify that the conveyance to be given for such real property so sold would be subject to any unpaid municipal taxes?

3. Is it the intention of the Government to introduce legislation to amend the "Municipal Clauses Act" so as to enable any municipal corporation to exercise the right of redeeming properties on which municipal taxes are unpaid, when such properties have been sold for Provincial taxes which accrued before the incorporation of the municipality?

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

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

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* 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 herewith a Bill 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,” and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
12th March, 1897.

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

The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, with Mr. *Booth* in the Chair.

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

Resolved, That the Committee rise and report to the House, recommending the introduction of 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.”

The Committee reported the Resolution and the Bill.
Report adopted.
Bill introduced and read a first time.
To be read a second time on Monday next.

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 again committed.

Bill reported complete with amendments.
Report to be considered to-morrow.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
12th March, 1897.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That your Committee met on the 11th inst., when the following papers were submitted and ordered to be printed :—

1. Return *re* construction of railways from coast to Columbia River and Kootenay.
2. Return of securities deposited 10th January, 1891, Official Administrator Intestate Estates.

3. Return “Creameries Act, 1896.”

4. Correspondence and surveyors’ reports, “Land Act, 1896.”

5. Correspondence *re* secretaryship Board of Health (Provincial).

6. Correspondence “The Vancouver World.”

All of which are respectfully submitted.

J. M. MUTTER,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

Order called for the third reading of Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Lillooet, Fraser River and Cariboo Gold Fields (Limited) Act, 1896.'"

Mr. *Macpherson* moved—

That the Order for the third reading of Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Lillooet, Fraser River and Cariboo Gold Fields, Limited, Act, 1896,'" be discharged, and the Bill referred back to Committee of the Whole, with instructions to the Committee to consider the following amendments to said Bill:—

"2. This Act is passed upon the express understanding that no Chinese or Japanese shall be employed in or about or concerning any works or services authorised by this Act, or required by the Company to be done or performed. In the event of any Chinese or Japanese being employed by the Company, the Company shall be liable, upon summary conviction before any two Justices of the Peace, or functionary having the power of two Justices of the Peace, upon the oath or affirmation of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to a penalty not exceeding twenty-five dollars, nor less than ten dollars, for every Chinese or Japanese employed; and in default of the immediate payment of the penalty, the same may be levied by distress and the sale of the goods and chattels of the Company; and in the event of any Chinese or Japanese being employed by any of the Company's contractors or sub-contractors, contrary to the provisions of this Act, then any such contractor or sub-contractor shall be liable, on summary conviction as aforesaid, to a penalty not exceeding twenty-five dollars, nor less than ten dollars, for every Chinese or Japanese employed; and in case of default in immediate payment of such last-mentioned penalty, the same may be recovered by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the offender; and in default of sufficient distress, the offender may be committed to any gaol or place of confinement situate within the territorial jurisdiction of the convicting Justices, and there imprisoned for any term not exceeding thirty days; and any Director or officer of the Company who causes or procures any Chinese or Japanese to be employed, contrary to the provisions of this Act, or permits or connives at such employment, shall be liable, upon summary conviction as aforesaid, to the like penalties as hereinbefore in this section provided, recoverable in manner secondly hereinbefore mentioned.

"3. The offender shall be liable to separate and successive penalties for each and every day during which any Chinese or Japanese shall be employed.

"4. The term 'Chinese,' wherever used in this Act, shall mean any native of the Chinese Empire or its dependencies not born of British parents, and shall include any person of the Chinese race; and the term 'Japanese,' wherever used in this Act, shall mean any native of the Japanese Empire or its dependencies not born of British parents, and shall include any person of the Japanese race."

Mr. Speaker ruled the motion out of order. See previous ruling on same point, p. 130, Journals 1896.

Bill read a third time and passed.

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

To be committed on Monday next.

Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Cassiar Railway," was read a second time.

To be committed on Monday next.

The adjourned debate on 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 further adjourned until Wednesday next.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* moved that Bill (No. 43) intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Lunatic Asylums and the Care and Custody of the Insane," be read a second time now.

A debate arose, which was adjourned until 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 5:15 o'clock, p. m.