

JOURNALS  
OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
OF THE PROVINCE OF  
BRITISH COLUMBIA.

SESSION, 1896

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Thursday, 23rd January, 1896.

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THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

This being the first day of the second meeting of the Seventh Parliament or Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of His Honour the Honourable EDGAR DEWDNEY, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the Fifth day of December, 1895.

His Honour the Honourable *Edgar Dewdney*, Lieutenant-Governor 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 Second Session of the Seventh Parliament, and I have every confidence that your sense of duty and your earnest desire for the welfare of the Province will inspire you to enact such legislation as may prove most beneficial to the progress of the various industries and the well-being of our people.

In consequence of the appointment of the Honourable Theodore Davie to the distinguished position of Chief Justice of this Province, I called upon the Honourable J. H. Turner, Minister of Finance, to form a new Administration, which he has done to my satisfaction.

Although the financial depression which has been bearing so heavily upon the commerce of the nations continued in a more or less marked degree during the past year, and as a consequence the revenue to the 30th of June last in this Province fell short of the estimate, owing largely to arrears not having been paid, I am, nevertheless, happy to say there are favourable indications of a revival. At the present time arrears are coming into the Treasury, and I have confidence in stating that the revenue to the 30th of June next will be equal to the estimate.

In view of the large imports of dairy produce, and the adaptability of many parts of the Province for dairy farming, it is proposed to submit for your consideration a measure to assist in the establishment of creameries.

The successful efforts to establish colonies, both on the Mainland and the Island of Vancouver, have induced my Government to continue the work of settlement by providing for a system of small holdings.

I am pleased to note the increasing attention which is being paid to agricultural matters in this Province. During the past year the yield of crops was much larger than usual, but I regret, however, that owing to the low prices of produce coming into competition with that of our own farmers the season's operations have not been as profitable as I would desire to see.

Coal mining is being extensively operated, and arrangements are being made for carrying on coking on a large scale.

Sealing and fishing operations have been much more successful than was anticipated. The out-put of the salmon canneries has been one of the largest on record. I am pleased to state that increased attention has been given to deep sea fishing, with prospects of that industry becoming a permanent and profitable one.

The timber industry continues to be affected by the depression, but there are indications of an improvement in the near future.

Shipping, both local and foreign, has increased, and a more general activity is noticeable, and particularly in the trade of the West Coast and the Islands.

You will be pleased to know that my Government has completed a settlement of the Railway Land question, for some time in dispute between this Province and the Dominion of Canada.

During the past summer my Minister of Finance issued in London, England, the loan for which your authority was obtained last Session, in 3 % Inscribed Stock at 95, being an advance of 9 per cent. over the loan of 1891, which is evidence of the high credit of British Columbia in the money markets.

I have much pleasure in calling attention to the very important mining developments of the past year, and the present promising outlook in Alberni as well as in other parts of the Province. The large output of ore, and the establishment of smelters in the Kootenay District, affords practical proof of the value of the mining industry. It is the intention of the Government to foster this industry as much as possible by opening up the interior communications of the country; and with a view to afford reliable information on our mining resources the Act of last Session providing for the establishment of a Bureau of Mines has been put into operation.

The importance of railway communication throughout the Province is deserving of your earnest consideration, and should any practical proposals be laid before you I have every confidence that they will meet with favour.

During recess I have caused a Proclamation to be issued bringing into force the provisions of the "Health Act, 1893." The Provincial Board of Health created thereunder has been constituted, and the report of its proceedings will be laid before you.

Important exploratory and other surveys have been carried on, and have led to the location of large areas of available arable and timber lands.

Acting under authority of the Statute passed by you at your last Session, I caused a Commission, under the Great Seal, to issue to the Chief Justice of British Columbia for the consolidation and revision of the Statute Law in force in this Province. The first progress report of the Commissioner has been received, and will be laid before you. I have adopted suggestions contained therein, and in accordance therewith a number of the Acts which have been revised will be introduced at the present Session.

Among the Bills for which your consideration will be requested are the following:—

"An Act for the Preservation of Forests."

"An Act to amend the 'Public School Act.'"

"An Act to encourage Dairying."

"An Act for the Incorporation of Benevolent and Friendly Societies."

"An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act,' and various others.

The estimates of revenue and expenditure for the ensuing year, to be shortly laid before you, will be found to be framed with strict regard to economy and the requirements of the public service.

The strained relations existing between the Imperial Government and certain foreign countries have called forth a spirit of loyalty from all parts of the Empire, and British Columbia cordially unites in the expressions which have been exhibited.

It is with profound regret that I have heard of the bereavement of the Royal Family, through the death of Prince Henry of Battenberg, whilst serving in the Ashanti War, and I feel confident of your expressions of sympathy for Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice, in her grief over the loss of her gallant husband.

I now leave you to your deliberations, with the sincere hope that they may have the blessing of Providence, and that the results may redound to your credit and to the prosperity of the Province.

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

Prayers by the Rev. *Solomon Cleaver*.

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

Mr. Speaker stated that the Honourable Mr. *Eberts*, a Member for the *South Victoria* Electoral District, had been re-elected to fill the vacancy caused by the acceptance of office of Attorney-General under the Crown;

That *David Alexander Stoddart* had been elected to fill the vacancy in *East Lillooet* Electoral District caused by virtue of section 3 of the "East Lillooet Election Act, 1895;"

And that *George Albert Huff* had been elected to fill the vacancy in *Cowichan-Alberni* Electoral District caused by the acceptance of the office of Chief Justice of British Columbia by the Honourable *T. Davie*.

The Certificates of Election were read by the Clerk, and are as follows:—

"SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,  
"VICTORIA, B. C., 20th January, 1896.

"*Thornton Fell, Esq.*,  
"Clerk of the Legislative Assembly:

"Whereas a vacancy occurred in the Legislative Assembly by the acceptance of office by the Honourable *David MacEwen Eberts*, a Member for the *South Victoria* Electoral District:

"And whereas on the 6th day of March, 1895, a writ for the election of a Member to represent such District was duly issued to *W. J. Rant, Esq.*, the Returning Officer of the said Electoral District:

"Now, I do hereby certify that on the 16th day of March, 1895, the said writ was returned to the Registrar of the Supreme Court by the said Returning Officer, with his certificate attached, whereby it appears that the Honourable *David MacEwen Eberts* has been, under and by virtue of the said writ, elected by acclamation a Member to represent the said District of *South Victoria* in the Legislative Assembly.

"B. H. TYRWHITT DRAKE."

"SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,  
"VICTORIA, B. C., 20th January, 1896.

"*Thornton Fell, Esq.*,  
"Clerk of the Legislative Assembly:

"Whereas a vacancy occurred in the Legislative Assembly, under and by virtue of section 3 of the 'East Lillooet Election Act, 1895,' which enacted that the seat for the East Riding of *Lillooet* Electoral District should, after the close of the Session 1894-1895, be and be deemed to be vacated:

"And whereas on the 11th day of May, 1895, a writ for the election of a Member to represent such District was duly issued to *F. Sours, Esq.*, the Returning Officer of the said Electoral District:

"Now I do hereby certify that on the 4th day of June, 1895, the said writ was returned to the Registrar of the Supreme Court by the said Returning Officer, with his certificate attached, whereby it appears that *David Alexander Stoddart*, Esquire, has been, under and by virtue of the said writ, elected a Member to represent the said District of the East Riding of *Lillooet* in the Legislative Assembly.

"B. H. TYRWHITT DRAKE."

"SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,  
"VICTORIA, B. C., 20th January, 1896.

"*Thornton Fell, Esq.*,  
"Clerk of the Legislative Assembly:

"Whereas a vacancy occurred in the Legislative Assembly by reason of the acceptance of the office of Chief Justice of British Columbia by the Honourable *Theodore Davie*, a Member for the *Cowichan-Alberni* Electoral District:

“And whereas on the 19th day of March, 1895, a writ for the election of a Member to represent such District was duly issued to *H. O. Wellburn*, Esq., the Returning Officer of the said Electoral District :

“And whereas on the 23rd day of April, 1895, the said writ was returned to the Registrar of the Supreme Court by the said Returning Officer, with his certificate attached, whereby it appeared that *Thomas Anthony Wood*, Esquire, was, under and by virtue of the said writ, elected a Member to represent the said District of *Cowichan-Alberni* in the Legislative Assembly :

“And whereas another vacancy occurred in the Legislative Assembly by reason of the aforesaid election being declared void by the certificate of a Judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, after the trial of an election petition before him, under the provisions of the ‘Provincial Controverted Elections Act’ :

“And whereas on the 28th day of August, 1895, another writ for the election of a Member to represent such District was duly issued to *H. O. Wellburn*, Esq., the Returning Officer of the said Electoral District :

“Now I do hereby certify that on the 15th day of October, 1895, the said writ was returned to the Registrar of the Supreme Court by the said Returning Officer, with his certificate attached, whereby it appears that *George Albert Huff*, Esquire, has been, under and by virtue of the said writ, elected a Member to represent the said District of *Cowichan-Alberni* in the Legislative Assembly.

“B. H. TYRWHITT DRAKE.”

*Ordered* to be placed on the Journals of the House.

The Honourable *D. M. Eberts*, having been duly sworn, was introduced by the Honourable Mr. *Turner* and the Honourable Colonel *Baker*.

*G. A. Huff*, Esq., having been duly sworn, was introduced by the Honourable Mr. *Turner* and Major *Mutter*.

*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.

*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 ;

which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and enquire 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.

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

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

The Rules and Orders were suspended, to allow the following motion to be introduced :—

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

That this House desires to express its deep sympathy for Her Royal Highness the Princess Beatrice, in her grief over the loss of her gallant husband, the Prince Henry of Battenberg.

The Honourable Mr. *Eberts* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Replevin Act.'" "

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time on Tuesday next.

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Public Accounts for the Fiscal Year ended 30th June, 1895.

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

And then the House adjourned at 3:35 o'clock, p. m.

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## Monday, 27th January, 1896.

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TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *Solomon Cleaver*.

*D. A. Stoddart*, Esq., having been duly sworn, was introduced by the Honourable *J. H. Turner* and *A. W. Smith*, Esq.

*Mr. Smith* presented a Petition for a Private Bill from "The British Columbia Southern Railway Company."

Laid on the table.

Pursuant to Order, the House proceeded to take into consideration the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

*Mr. G. A. Huff* moved, seconded by *Mr. J. M. Kellie*,—

1. That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, to thank His Honour for his gracious Speech at the opening of the Second Session of the Seventh Parliament, and further to assure His Honour that we will earnestly endeavour to enact such legislation as may prove most beneficial to the progress of the various industries and the well-being of the people.

2. That we learn with satisfaction that in consequence of the appointment of the Honourable Theodore Davie to the distinguished position of Chief Justice of this Province, His Honour called upon the Honourable *J. H. Turner*, Minister of Finance, to form a new Administration, and that he has done this to His Honour's satisfaction.

3. That although the financial depression which has been bearing so heavily upon the commerce of the nations continued in a more or less marked degree during the past year, and as a consequence the revenue to the 30th of June last in this Province fell short of the estimate, owing largely to arrears not having been paid, we are, nevertheless, happy to learn there are favourable indications of a revival. That we note that at the present time arrears are coming into the Treasury, and we hear with pleasure His Honour's confident statement that the revenue to the 30th of June next will be equal to the estimate.

4. That it is gratifying to learn that, in view of the large imports of dairy produce, and the adaptability of many parts of the Province for dairy farming, it is proposed to submit for our consideration a measure to assist in the establishment of creameries.

5. That we are glad to hear that the successful efforts to establish colonies, both on the Mainland and the Island of Vancouver, have induced His Honour's Government to continue the work of settlement by providing for a system of small holdings.

6. That we are pleased to note the increasing attention which is being paid to agricultural matters in this Province, and that during the past year the yield of crops was much

larger than usual, but we learn with regret that, owing to the low prices of produce coming into competition with that of our own farmers, the season's operations have not been as profitable as is desirable.

7. That it is satisfactory to hear that coal mining is being extensively operated, and that arrangements are being made for carrying on a large scale.

8. That we hear with pleasure that sealing and fishing operations have been much more successful than was anticipated, and that the output of the salmon canneries has been one of the largest on record. We are also pleased to learn that increased attention has been given to deep sea fishing, with prospects of that industry becoming a permanent and profitable one.

9. That we regret that the timber industry continues to be affected by the depression, but hail with pleasure the indications of an improvement in the near future.

10. That we note with gratification that shipping, both local and foreign, has increased, and a more general activity is noticeable, and particularly in the trade of the West Coast and the Islands.

11. That we are pleased to know that His Honour's Government has completed a settlement of the Railway Land question, for some time in dispute between this Province and the Dominion of Canada.

12. That it is extremely satisfactory to learn that during the past summer His Honour's Minister of Finance issued in London, England, the loan for which authority was given last Session, in 3% Inscribed Stock at 95, being an advance of 9 per cent. over the loan of 1891, which is evidence of the high credit of British Columbia in the money markets.

13. That we have much pleasure in turning our attention to the very important mining developments of the past year, and the present promising outlook in Alberni, as well as in other parts of the Province. We note that the large output of ore, and the establishment of smelters in the Kootenay District, afford practical proof of the value of the mining industry, and we approve of the intention of the Government to foster this industry as much as possible by opening up the interior communications of the country; and we are glad to learn that, with a view to afford reliable information on our mining resources, the Act of last Session providing for the establishment of a Bureau of Mines has been put into operation.

14. That we readily appreciate that the importance of railway communication throughout the Province is deserving of our earnest consideration, and should any practical proposals be laid before us, we assure His Honour that they will meet with favour.

15. That we note that, during recess, His Honour caused a Proclamation to be issued bringing into force the provisions of the "Health Act, 1893," and that the Provincial Board of Health created thereunder has been constituted, and that the report of its proceedings will be laid before us.

16. That we are pleased to be informed that important exploratory and other surveys have been carried on, and have led to the location of large areas of available arable and timber lands.

17. That we learn with satisfaction that, acting under authority of the Statute passed at the last Session, His Honour caused a Commission, under the Great Seal, to issue to the Chief Justice of British Columbia for the consolidation and revision of the Statute Law in force in this Province, and that the first progress report of the Commissioner has been received and will be laid before us; and we note that His Honour has adopted suggestions contained therein, and that, in accordance therewith, a number of the Acts which have been revised will be introduced at the present Session.

18. That we will attentively consider the following Bills when laid before us:—

"An Act for the preservation of Forests."

"An Act to amend the 'Public Schools Act.'"

"An Act to encourage Dairying."

"An Act for the Incorporation of Benevolent and Friendly Societies."

"An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act,' and various others.

19. That we thank His Honour for the information that the estimates of revenue and expenditure for the ensuing year, to be shortly laid before us, will be found to be framed with strict regard to economy and the requirements of the public service.

20. That we note that the strained relations existing between the Imperial Government and certain foreign countries have called forth a spirit of loyalty from all parts of the Empire, and on behalf of British Columbia we cordially unite in the expressions which have been exhibited.

21. That it is with profound regret that we have heard of the bereavement of the Royal Family through the death of Prince Henry of Battenberg, whilst serving in the Ashanti War, and we desire to give utterance to heartfelt expressions of sympathy for Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice, in her grief over the loss of her gallant husband.

22. That we unite in the hope that our deliberations may have the blessing of Providence, and that the results may redound to the prosperity of the Province.

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

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended—

And on the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Turner*, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the following Address of Condolence to Her Majesty the Queen and Her Royal Highness the Princess Beatrice, on the death of His Royal Highness Prince Henry of Battenberg, be presented to Her Majesty :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY :

We, Your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, in Parliament assembled, desire to humbly tender to Your Majesty, and to Her Royal Highness the Princess Beatrice, assurances of our profound sorrow and heartfelt sympathy for the great loss Your Majesty and Her Royal Highness have sustained by the death of His Royal Highness Prince Henry of Battenberg.

Though geographically distant from the centre of Your Majesty's Empire, the people of British Columbia have ever been most devotedly attached to Your Majesty's Royal person and family, and the mournful death of the lamented Prince, while in the service of Your Majesty in defence of Your Empire, has plunged them in the deepest grief.

We, therefore, venture to hope that Your Majesty and Her Royal Highness will be graciously pleased to accept this humble but loyal and sincere assurance of our sorrow and sympathy in the affliction which the Supreme Ruler, in His inscrutable providence, has permitted to befall Your Majesty.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to prevent certain Animals from running at large, and respecting Injuries by Animals of a domestic nature."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to incorporate Benevolent and Friendly Societies."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to preserve the Forests from Destruction by Fire."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act for the consolidation and amendment of the Law relating to Dower."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the Custody and Care of Infants."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act for the better regulation of Traffic on Highways."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the Contracts and Privileges of Infants."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

Mr. *Helmcken* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act for the benefit of Mechanics and Labourers."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

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

In view of the recent conflicting judgments as to the constitutionality of the Small Debts Act, is it the intention of the Government to introduce at the present Session such legislation as will secure the proper working of the said Act?

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

"It is the intention of the Government to bring the conflicting judgments before the Full Court at the first opportunity, and until the decision of that Court is known it is inexpedient to amend the Act, except in a few details, which will be submitted to the House at an early date."

Messrs. *Hunter, Smith, Helmcken, Stoddart, Williams, Kitchen, and Cotton*, were nominated to form the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders.

Messrs. *Rithet, Mutter, McGregor, Sword, and Kidd*, were nominated to form the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Messrs. *Walkem, Irving, Mutter, McPherson, and Kennedy*, were nominated to form the Select Standing Committee on Printing.

Messrs. *Rithet, Huff, Rogers, Hunter, Adams, Kellie, Walkem, Bryden, Braden, Booth, Williams, McPherson, Kennedy, Sword, Forster, Graham, Kidd, and Hume*, were nominated to form the Select Standing Committee on Railways.

Messrs. *Smith, Adams, Rogers, Kellie, Bryden, McGregor, Braden, Graham, Hume, McPherson, Semlin, Kennedy, and Forster*, were nominated to form the Select Standing Committee on Mining.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:15 o'clock, p. m.

Tuesday, 28th January, 1896.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. C. M. Tate.

The following Petitions were presented and laid on the table :—

By Mr. *Helmcken*, for a Private Bill, from "The Consolidated Railway and Light Co."

By Mr. *Rogers*, for a Private Bill, from "The Lillooet, Fraser River, and Cariboo Gold Fields Co."

The Petition from "The British Columbia Southern Railway Company" was read and received.

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

Resolution proposed and agreed to.

The said Address was read a second time, taken as read, and agreed to.

Read a third time, taken as read, and agreed to.

On the motion of the Honourable the Premier, seconded by the Honourable the President of the Council, 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 Provincial Secretary, the Honourable the Minister of Finance, the Honourable the President of the Executive Council, the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, and Messrs. *Huff* and *Kellie*.

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

*To the Honourable EDGAR DEWDNEY, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia :*

We, Her 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 this the Second Session of the Seventh Term of the Provincial Parliament.

We learn with satisfaction that in consequence of the appointment of the Honourable Theodore Davie to the distinguished position of Chief Justice of this Province, Your Honour called upon the Honourable J. H. Turner, Minister of Finance, to form a new Administration, and that he has done this to Your Honour's satisfaction.

Although the financial depression which has been bearing so heavily upon the commerce of the nations continued in a more or less marked degree during the past year, and as a consequence the revenue to the 30th of June last in this Province fell short of the estimate, owing largely to arrears not having been paid, we are, nevertheless, happy to learn there are favourable indications of a revival. We note that at the present time arrears are coming into the Treasury, and we hear with pleasure Your Honour's confident statement that the revenue to the 30th of June next will be equal to the estimate.

It is gratifying to learn that, in view of the large imports of dairy produce, and the adaptability of many parts of the Province for dairy farming, it is proposed to submit for our consideration a measure to assist in the establishment of creameries,

We are glad to hear that the successful efforts to establish colonies, both on the Mainland and the Island of Vancouver, have induced Your Honour's Government to continue the work of settlement by providing for a system of small holdings,

We are pleased to note the increasing attention which is being paid to agricultural matters in this Province, and that during the past year the yield of crops was much larger than usual, but we learn with regret that, owing to the low prices of produce coming into competition with that of our own farmers, the season's operations have not been as profitable as is desirable.

It is satisfactory to hear that coal mining is being extensively operated, and that arrangements are being made for carrying on coking on a large scale.

We hear with pleasure that sealing and fishing operations have been much more successful than was anticipated, and that the out-put of the salmon canneries has been one of the largest on record. We are also pleased to learn that increased attention has been given to deep sea fishing, with prospects of that industry becoming a permanent and profitable one.

We regret that the timber industry continues to be affected by the depression, but hail with pleasure the indications of an improvement in the near future.

We note with gratification that shipping, both local and foreign, has increased, and a more general activity is noticeable, and particularly in the trade of the West Coast and the Islands.

We are pleased to know that Your Honour's Government has completed a settlement of the Railway Land question, for some time in dispute between this Province and the Dominion of Canada.

It is extremely satisfactory to learn that during the past summer Your Honour's Minister of Finance issued in London, England, the loan for which authority was given last Session, in 3 % Inscribed Stock at 95, being an advance of 9 per cent. over the loan of 1891, which is evidence of the high credit of British Columbia in the money markets.

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We readily appreciate that the importance of railway communication throughout the Province is deserving of our earnest consideration, and should any practical proposals be laid before us, we assure Your Honour that they will meet with favour.

We note that, during recess, Your Honour caused a Proclamation to be issued bringing into force the provisions of the "Health Act, 1893," and that the Provincial Board of Health created thereunder has been constituted, and that the report of its proceedings will be laid before us.

We are pleased to be informed that important exploratory and other surveys have been carried on, and have led to the location of large areas of available arable and timber lands.

We learn with satisfaction that, acting under authority of the Statute passed at the last Session, Your Honour caused a Commission, under the Great Seal, to issue to the Chief Justice of British Columbia for the consolidation and revision of the Statute Law in force in this Province, and that the first progress report of the Commissioner has been received and will be laid before us; and we note that Your Honour has adopted suggestions contained therein, and that, in accordance therewith, a number of the Acts which have been revised will be introduced at the present Session.

We will attentively consider the following Bills when laid before us:—

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"An Act to amend the 'Public Schools Act.'"

"An Act to encourage Dairying."

"An Act for the Incorporation of Benevolent and Friendly Societies."

"An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act,' and various others.

We thank Your Honour for the information that the estimates of revenue and expenditure for the ensuing year, to be shortly laid before us, will be found to be framed with strict regard to economy and the requirements of the public service.

We note that the strained relations existing between the Imperial Government and certain foreign countries have called forth a spirit of loyalty from all parts of the Empire, and on behalf of British Columbia we cordially unite in the expressions which have been exhibited.

It is with profound regret that we have heard of the bereavement of the Royal Family through the death of Prince Henry of Battenberg, whilst serving in the Ashanti War, and we desire to give utterance to heartfelt expressions of sympathy for Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice, in her grief over the loss of her gallant husband.

We unite in the hope that our deliberations may have the blessing of Providence, and that the results may redound to the prosperity of the Province.

On the motion of the Honourable the Premier, seconded by the Honourable the Provincial Secretary, 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 Mr. *Helmcken*, seconded by Major *Mutter*, it was *Resolved*,—

Whereas Resolutions have at various times been passed by the Legislature of the Province of British Columbia, in Parliament assembled, urging upon the Dominion Government the desirability of obtaining the removal of the *Songhees* Tribe of Indians from the Reserve to some suitable locality:

And whereas it is highly desirable that effective steps be taken to accomplish the object aforesaid:

Be it Resolved, That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to request the Dominion Government's consent to refer the question of removal and settlement to a Special Commission, consisting of three Commissioners, one to be appointed by the Dominion Government, one to be appointed by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and the two so appointed to agree upon a third, and in the event of the two so appointed being unable to agree upon the third, some member of the Supreme Court of British Columbia shall be the third Commissioner.

Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Replevin 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 then the House adjourned at 3:40 o'clock, p. m.

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Wednesday, 29th January, 1896.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Hon. *D. W. Higgins*, Speaker of the House, being absent, the Hon. the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*,—

That Mr. *Booth*, the Member for *North Victoria* District, do preside at this meeting of the House as Speaker, and the Question being put by the Clerk of the House, was unanimously *Resolved* in the affirmative.

Prayers by the Rev. *C. M. Tate*.

Mr. *Kellie* presented a Petition from "The Nelson Electric Light Company, Limited," for a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act.

Laid on the table.

The following Petitions were read and received:—

From "The Consolidated Railway and Light Co.," for a Private Bill.

From "The Lillooet, Fraser River, and Cariboo Gold Fields Co.," for a Private Bill.

Mr. *Kellie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 12) intituled "An Act respecting Wages."  
Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time on Friday next.

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

That the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the present Session be taken into consideration on Friday next.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 13) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Public School Act, 1891.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Replevin Act,'" was committed, with Mr. *Hume* in the Chair.

Bill reported complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

*Ordered* to be read a third time to-morrow.

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

Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to prevent certain Animals from running at large, and respecting Injuries by Animals of a domestic nature," was read a second time.

*Ordered* to be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to Incorporate Benevolent and Friendly Societies," was read a second time.

*Ordered* to be committed to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 3:30 o'clock, p. m.

Thursday, 30th January, 1896.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Hon. *D. W. Higgins*, Speaker of the House, being absent, the Hon. the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*,—

That Mr. *Booth*, the Member for *North Victoria* District, do preside at this meeting of the House as Speaker, and the Question being put by the Clerk of the House, was unanimously *Resolved* in the affirmative.

Prayers by the Rev. *C. M. Tate*.

The Petition from "The Nelson Electric Light Company, Limited," for a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act, was read and received.

The following Petitions were presented and laid on the table :—

By Mr. *Rogers*, from *A. D. Whittier*, for a Private Bill *re Ashcroft and Cariboo Railway*.

By Mr. *Rogers*, from *S. Tingley*, for a Private Bill *re operating traction engines on Cariboo Waggon Road*.

By Mr. *Hunter*, from *A. E. Humphreys*, for a Private Bill *re mining in Kootenay*.

Mr. *Sword* presented the First Report from the Select Standing Committee on Railways, as follows :—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
29th January, 1896.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That, in their opinion, the number necessary to form a quorum of this Committee should be reduced to seven.

J. P. BOOTH,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

Mr. *Kitchen* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 17) intituled "An Act respecting Co-operative Associations."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

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

What action, if any, has been taken by the Government to insure the appointment of a Supreme Court Judge resident at *Vancouver*?

Also—Does the Government intend to take any action whereby the Supreme Court Judge to be appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Sir *H. P. Pellew Crease* shall be required to reside at the City of *Vancouver*?

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

"1. The retirement of Sir *Henry P. P. Crease* from the Bench only took effect on the 20th instant. The matter will receive the attention of the Government in due course.

"2. The matter will be duly considered by the Government."

Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to prevent certain Animals from running at large, and respecting Injuries by Animals of a domestic nature," was committed, with Mr. *Kellie* in the Chair.

The Committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Leave granted for to-morrow.

Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to incorporate Benevolent and Friendly Societies," was committed, with Mr. *Macpherson* in the Chair.

The Committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Leave granted for to-morrow.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* moved that Bill (No. 13) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Public School Act, 1891,'" be read a second time now.

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

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:40 o'clock, p. m.

Friday, 31st January, 1896.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Hon. *D. W. Higgins*, Speaker of the House, being absent, the Hon. the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*,—

That Mr. *Booth*, the Member for *North Victoria* District, do preside at this meeting of the House as Speaker, and the Question being put by the Clerk of the House, was unanimously *Resolved* in the affirmative.

Prayers by the Rev. *C. M. Tate*.

Mr. *Kellie* presented a Petition from *F. E. Ward*, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Columbia and Western Railway Company."

Laid on the table.

The following Petitions were read and received :—

From *A. D. Whittier*, for a Private Bill, *re Ashcroft and Cariboo Railway*.

From *S. Tingley*, for a Private Bill, *re operating traction engines on Cariboo Waggon Road*.

From *A. E. Humphreys*, for a Private Bill, *re mining in Kootenay*.

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

On the motion of the Hon. the Minister of Finance, seconded by the Hon. the Provincial Secretary, it was *Resolved*,—

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

Mr. *Walkem* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act to amend the 'County Courts Act.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time on Tuesday next.

Mr. *Walkem* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Homestead Act.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time on Tuesday next.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return showing—

1. The number of leases granted for fishing stations.
2. The size and location of such fishing stations, and date when issued.
3. The conditions and terms of leases.
4. The rent derived (if any) from such leases.
5. The number of leases held by each individual or company.
6. The number of leases applied for not yet granted.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Intestate Estate Act' and amending Act."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time on Monday next.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Notaries Appointment Act.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time on Monday next.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Royal Inland Hospital."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time on Monday next.

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

What sums have been paid, and to whom, in connection with the Commission for the revision and consolidation of the Statute Law in force in this Province?

Has any sum been agreed upon for the entire work, and if so what sum and to whom payable?

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

"Seven thousand five hundred dollars to the Hon. Chief Justice, being the amount voted at the last Session of the Legislature, out of which the Commissioner has paid all disbursements in connection with the preparation of the work.

"No sum has been agreed on for the whole work. It was stated in this House that it would not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars."

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

1. What was the total amount of defalcation of *W. H. Falding*, ex-District Registrar of the Supreme Court at *New Westminster*?

2. Have his accounts been audited, and if so, has the auditor made his report?

3. What was the total amount of defalcation of *James Charles Prevost*, ex-Registrar of Supreme Court?

4. Have his accounts been audited, and if so, has the auditor made his report?

5. Have defalcations been made by any other employees, servants, or officials of the Government during the year 1895, and up to date? If so, give names and amounts of each defalcation.

6. Have their accounts been audited, and if so, have auditors made their reports?

7. What security has the Government for the several defaulters' faithful discharge of their duties?

8. If any, give date, nature and amount thereof, and names of sureties.

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

"1. \$1,416.27.

"2. Yes.

"3. \$22,596.14, of which \$1,500 has been refunded by the Guarantee Company of North America.

"4. Yes.

"5, 6. There have been no other defalcations.

"7, 8. For Prevost, \$1,500 in Guarantee Co. of North America, above referred to."

Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to Incorporate Benevolent and Friendly Societies," was again committed, with Mr. *Macpherson* in the Chair.

The Committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Leave granted for Monday next.

Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Replevin Act,'" was read a third time and passed.

On the motion of the Honourable Mr. *Turner*, seconded by Mr. *Rithet*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the Members of this Legislature, having learned with regret of the death of Mrs. *Work*, wife of the late Hon. *John Work*, a Member of the Council of *Vancouver Island* from 1853 to 1862, who before her demise was the oldest resident of British Columbia, and who will be remembered not less for her usefulness in pioneer work and many good deeds, beg to express their sympathy with the relatives of the deceased.

And then the House adjourned at 3:50 o'clock, p. m.

Monday, 3rd February, 1896.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Hon. *D. W. Higgins*, Speaker of the House, being absent, the Hon. the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*,—

That Mr. *Booth*, the Member for *North Victoria* District, do preside at this meeting of the House as Speaker, and the Question being put by the Clerk of the House, was unanimously *Resolved* in the affirmative.

Prayers by the Right Rev. Bishop *Perrin*.

The Petition from *F. E. Ward*, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Columbia and Western Railway Company," was read and received.

The following Petitions were presented and laid on the table :—

By Mr. *Hume*, from "The New Westminster and Burrard Inlet Telephone Company," for a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act.

By Mr. *Semlin*, from *R. Stevenson* and others, residents of *Granite Creek* and *Similkameen*, asking for appropriation for road extension.

By Mr. *Rogers*, from *Wm. Farrell*, *Thos. Dunn*, and *Donald McGillivray*, for a Private Bill for incorporation, and to consolidate their mining properties.

By Mr. *Rogers*, from *David Oppenheimer*, *Thos. Dunn*, and *Donald McGillivray*, for a Private Bill for incorporation, and to consolidate their mining properties.

By Mr. *Rogers*, from "The Vernon and Nelson Telephone Company," to amend their Corporate Act.

By Mr. *Hunter*, from "The New Westminster and Vancouver Short Line Railway Company," for a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act.

By Major *Mutter*, from "The Anglo-Western Pioneer Syndicate," for a Private Bill for incorporation (*re Rossland* water-works).

Mr. *Hunter* presented the First Report from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
February 3rd, 1896.

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. 3—The Petition of “The Lillooet, Fraser River, and Cariboo Gold Fields, Limited.”

No. 2—The Petition of A. D. Whittier.

No. 5—The Petition of “The Consolidated Railway and Light Company.”

JOSEPH HUNTER,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

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

That the First Report of the Select Standing Committee on Railways be adopted, and the number necessary to form a quorum of the said Committee be reduced to seven.

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor by this House, praying that he will be pleased to bring down a Return showing the terms upon which the settlement of the Railway Lands question between the Provincial and Dominion Governments was completed.

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

That an Order of this House be granted, asking for a Return of the number of plaints which have been entered in the several Small Debts Courts of this Province, the amounts sued for, and the fees taken by the Magistrates.

Also, a Return showing the number of plaints which have been entered in which the fees have not been paid before the hearing of the plaint.

Also, a Return showing the number of plaints which have been settled before hearing, and whether in such cases the fees have been limited to the summons and service, or whether the hearing fee has been included.

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he will be pleased to grant a Return of a copy of the Order in Council and all other papers in connection with the appointment of the Commissioner under chap. 50, B. C. Stats. 1895.

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

That an Order of this House be granted for a Return of all correspondence between the educational authorities and the trustees of *Salmon Arm School*, in relation to the discharge of Mr. *J. Irwin* as teacher of said school.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return showing the instructions under which the conversion of the loans of 1877 and 1887 is being proceeded with, and in what manner the rate of conversion is arrived at.

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

That a Select Committee, composed of Messrs. *Riethel*, *Helmcken*, *Booth*, *Kidd*, and the mover, be appointed to consider the Municipal Act, as revised by the Commissioner, to recommend amendments thereto, and to report to this House.

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

1. Have all logs cut on Provincial lands since the appointment of the Official Log Scalers been measured by said Scalers? If not, why not?
2. Has the Government collected timber dues according to such measurement?

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

“1. No; but in such cases they have been scaled under authority of the Timber Inspector for the Province, as provided by the latter part of section 17 (1) of the ‘Official Scalers’ Act, 1894.’

“2. Yes; so far as such scaling has been done.”

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

1. How many owners of mineral claims have paid into the Provincial Treasury \$100, in lieu of performing the annual amount of assessment work required by the Mineral Act?
2. What amount has *West Kootenay* contributed in lieu of assessment work?
3. What is the total amount derived from the above sources?

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

- “1. Five.
- “2. \$300.
- “3. \$500.”

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

1. What contracts, other than those presented to this House on the 3rd January, 1895, by the Hon. Mr. *Martin*, have been entered into by the Government relative to the New Parliament Buildings?
2. If any, what are the particulars?
3. What is value of work done by each of the contractors on New Parliament Buildings?
4. What is value of work yet to be done by each of said contractors in order to complete his contract?
5. What is value of material supplied, and value of materials yet to be supplied, by each of the contractors?
6. Has any portion of the work on the New Parliament Buildings been done other than under aforesaid contracts, and if so, what work and cost thereof?
7. What sums have been paid under each contract, and to whom?
8. What sum has been expended to date in connection with the New Parliament Buildings and grounds, including discounts, commission, and other incidental expenses, in detail under separate heads?
9. What will be the cost of completion of said Buildings, including discounts, commissions, removing old buildings, fixing up grounds, &c.?
10. What loss, if any, will be sustained by the Government by the failure of the late *Frederick Adams* to carry out his contract, or in connection with said contract?

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

- “1. One.
- “2. Electric wiring and telephones.
- “3. The value of the work done is the amounts paid to each contractor, plus the percentage retained by the Government as security for completion.
- “4. The value is the difference between the contract and the amount paid, plus the amount retained for the due completion of the contract.
- “5. It is not possible to answer the question, as material and labour are not separated in the contracts.
- “6. Yes; drainage work by day labour. Cost not yet known.

"7. \$418,000.94, as follows:—

To Joseph E. Phillips, foundation contract . . . . .	\$ 56,342 70
" Fredk. Adams (estate), mason's " . . . . .	294,641 00
" Bishop & Sherbourne, joiner's " . . . . .	14,815 00
" Richard Drake, plasterer's " . . . . .	16,950 00
" Albion Iron Works, ironfounder's " . . . . .	8,600 00
" E. G. Prior & Co., steel joists " . . . . .	5,891 00
" R. J. Nott, plumber's " . . . . .	4,000 00
" W. H. Perry, coppersmith's " . . . . .	14,527 70
" J. Jardine, painter's " . . . . .	33 54
" Cunningham & Hinton, electric wiring contract . . . . .	2,200 00
	\$418,000 94

"8. \$480,270.47, as follows:—

Preliminary expenses for competitive plans, &c. . . . .	\$ 6,069 85
Foundation contract . . . . .	56,342 70
Mason's " . . . . .	294,641 00
" " bonds . . . . .	10,000 00
Joiner's " . . . . .	14,815 00
Plasterer's " . . . . .	16,950 00
Ironfounder's " . . . . .	8,600 00
Steel joists " . . . . .	5,891 78
Plumber's " . . . . .	4,000 00
Coppersmith's " . . . . .	14,529 70
Painter's " . . . . .	33 54
Electric wiring " . . . . .	2,200 00
Purchase of bricks . . . . .	7,250 00
Haddington Island quarry, mortgage and wages . . . . .	6,374 90
Clerk of Works . . . . .	5,108 00
Architect . . . . .	26,390 50
Miscellaneous . . . . .	1,073 50
	\$480,270 47

"9. The question cannot be answered, as it is purely a matter of opinion.

"10. No loss."

Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to prevent certain Animals from running at large, and respecting Injuries by Animals of a domestic nature," was again committed, with Mr. *Kellie* in the Chair.

The Committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Leave granted for to-morrow.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:43 o'clock, p. m.

Tuesday, 4th February, 1896.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Hon. *D. W. Higgins*, Speaker of the House, being absent, the Hon. the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*,—

That Mr. *Booth*, the Member for *North Victoria* District, do preside at this meeting of the House as Speaker, and the Question being put by the Clerk of the House, was unanimously *Resolved* in the affirmative.

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

The following Petitions were presented and laid on the table :—

By Mr. *Smith*, from *G. B. Guthrie* and others, residents of *Lillooet* (*re* dredging and mining leases on *Fraser River*).

By Mr. *Braden*, from *H. C. Macaulay* and others, for a Private Bill (*re Alberni* water-works).

The following Petitions were read and received :—

From "The New Westminster and Burrard Inlet Telephone Company," for a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act.

From "The Vernon and Nelson Telephone Company," to amend their Corporate Act.

From "The New Westminster and Vancouver Short Line Railway Company," for a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act.

From "The Anglo-Western Pioneer Syndicate," for a Private Bill for incorporation (*re Rossland* water-works).

The Petition from *R. Stevenson* and others, residents of *Granite Creek* and *Similkameen*, asking for appropriation for road extension, was ruled out of order.

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act to encourage Dairying."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

On the motion Mr. *Helmcken*, seconded by Major *Mutter*, it was *Resolved*,—

Whereas at the present time American vessels are employed in fishing for halibut in Canadian waters, principally in *Hecate Straits*, and destroy large numbers of immature fish, and if allowed to continue will in a short time ruin the fishery :

And whereas it has also been brought to public notice that smuggling of merchandise is being carried on by foreign vessels in British Columbia waters :

Be it *Resolved*, That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to urge the Dominion Government to place a revenue cutter in our northern waters, for the purpose of protecting the deep sea fishery and the prevention of smuggling.

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

Whereas cases of shipwreck have occurred in British Columbia waters, involving loss of life and much suffering to the distressed seamen :

And whereas prompt aid and assistance could be rendered in many of such cases, whereby death might be averted, succour afforded, and much valuable property preserved, if a suitable vessel were kept in commission throughout the year, and stationed at the port of *Victoria* :

Be it Resolved, That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to press upon the Dominion Government the urgent necessity existing for providing such suitable vessel at an early date.

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

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

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

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

*Resolved*, That a Supply be granted to Her Majesty.

*Resolved*, That the Committee rise and report the Resolution.

Upon Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, the Resolution was reported.

Report *Ordered* to be considered forthwith and adopted.

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

Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to prevent certain Animals from running at large, and respecting Injuries by Animals of a domestic nature," was again committed, with Mr. *Kellie* in the Chair.

The Bill was reported complete with amendments.

Report *Ordered* to be considered to-morrow.

The Order for the House to again consider Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to Incorporate Benevolent and Friendly Societies," in Committee of the Whole, was discharged.

Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Intestate Estate Act' and amending Act," was read a second time.

*Ordered* to be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Royal Inland Hospital," was read a second time.

*Ordered* to be committed to-morrow.

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

That the public accounts generally, up to date, be referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

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

And then the House adjourned at 4:55 o'clock, p. m.

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Wednesday, 5th February, 1896.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Hon. *D. W. Higgins*, Speaker of the House, being absent, the Hon. the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*,—

That Mr. *Booth*, the Member for *North Victoria* District, do preside at this meeting of the House as Speaker, and the Question being put by the Clerk of the House, was unanimously *Resolved* in the affirmative.

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

The following Petitions were presented and laid on the table :—

By Mr. *McGregor*, from *John Morgan Harris, F. T. Kelly, and G. M. Sproat*, for a Private Bill to incorporate “The Sandon Water-Works and Light Company.”

By Mr. *Rogers*, from *W. H. Armstrong, Robert Armstrong, and David Armstrong*, for a Private Bill to incorporate a company to operate traction engines on the *Cariboo Waggon Road*.

By Mr. *Hunter*, from *John A. Finch, Patrick Clark, and W. S. Norman*, for a Private Bill to incorporate “The Rossland Land, Water and Light Company.”

The Petition from *H. C. Macaulay* and others, for a Private Bill (*re Alberni water-works*), was read and received.

The Petition from *G. B. Guthrie* and others, residents of *Lillooet* (*re dredging and mining leases on Fraser River*), was ruled out of order.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all reports for the year 1895 made by Mr. *Burnyeat* with regard to explorations in *East Yale*.

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

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

Is it the intention of the Government to introduce, at the present Session, legislation relating to the transfer of real estate and the registration of titles to lands ?

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

“The matter is now under the consideration of the Government.”

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

1. What was date of payment of \$7,500 to the Commissioner appointed for revision and consolidation of the Statutes ?

2. What were the disbursements paid thereout by the Commissioner ?

3. Who paid expenses in connection with printing and binding the first report of the Commissioner ?

4. What is the cost of printing and binding same ?

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

“1. 2nd July, \$3,500; 6th September, \$750; 4th December, \$750; 7th January, \$2,500.

“2. No statement has been furnished by the Commissioner.

“3. The Government.

“4. The printing was done at the Government Office, partly by the regular staff, of which no separate account has been kept. Additional printers were employed, at a cost of \$1,270.09. The paper cost, approximately, \$175. The cost of binding 150 copies amounted to \$167.50.”

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

1. Is it a fact that during the recess of this House any County Court Appeals have been heard at the City of *New Westminster* before a Court constituted of one Supreme Court Judge and the Judge of the County Court of the District ?

2. Have any Divisional Court Appeals been heard, either at the City of *Vancouver* or the City of *New Westminster*, before a Court so constituted ?

3. If so, was the said Court or either of them so constituted with the sanction of the Government, and under what authority ?

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

“1. Yes; one County Court Appeal was heard at *New Westminster* before a Court so constituted, the appeal being from a judgment of the County Judge at *Yale*, who had acted in the absence of the County Judge of *Westminster*; and another appeal was heard there from the County Court Judge before two Judges of the Supreme Court.

"2. No.

"3. The Government gave no sanction to and had no knowledge of the holding of the above Courts."

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

1. Has the Provincial Auditor examined the accounts of the Road Superintendent of *East Lillooet* during the year 1895, or any part of said year?

2. Has the Government received a report from the Auditor or Government Agent for *Lillooet* referring to such accounts?

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

"1. Yes.

"2. Yes."

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

1. Who are the employees of the Gold Commissioner's Office in *Barkerville* and their salary?

2. Why was the office of Mining Recorder moved from *Richfield* to *Barkerville*, at an expense of about \$1,000, and in the face of the opposition of the people living there (I refer to winter quarters)?

3. Why was an Assayer employed at *Barkerville*, at a salary of \$60 per month, who is not competent to assay refractory ores and has never passed an examination for assaying?

4. Who is supposed to look after the buildings which contain the Chlorination Works, erected by the Government at a cost of many thousand dollars?

5. Does the Government own the Reduction Works on *Island Mountain*? If so, have they been leased to any parties, and what rental is to be paid, also the term for which lease is to be held and by whom?

The questions were ruled out of order, as involving matter of opinion, argument, and inference. See *May*, 355.

The Orders for the second reading of the following Bills were discharged:—

Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to preserve the Forests from destruction by Fire."

Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act for the consolidation and amendment of the Law relating to Dower."

Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the Custody and Care of Infants."

Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act for the better regulation of Traffic on Highways."

Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the Contracts and Privileges of Infants."

Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Intestate Estate Act' and amending Act," was committed, with Mr. *Stoddart* in the Chair.

Bill reported complete without amendment.

Report *Ordered* to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act to incorporate the Royal Inland Hospital," was committed, with Major *Mutter* in the Chair.

Bill reported complete with amendments.

Report *Ordered* to be considered to-morrow.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Twenty-fourth Annual Report on the Public Schools of the Province.

Also, a Return of a copy of the Order in Council and all other papers in connection with the appointment of the Commissioner under chap. 50, B. C. Stats. 1895.

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

That the Order for the second reading of Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act to encourage Dairying," be discharged, and that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee, consisting of Messrs. *Booth*, *Mutter*, *Adams*, *Kitchen*, and *Kidd*, with authority to call for persons and report to this House.

Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Homestead Act,'" was read a second time.

*Ordered* to be committed on Monday next.

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

And then the House adjourned at 3:45 o'clock, p. m.

## Thursday, 6th February, 1896.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Hon. *D. W. Higgins*, Speaker of the House, being absent, the Hon. the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. *Senlin*,—

That Mr. *Booth*, the Member for *North Victoria* District, do preside at this meeting of the House as Speaker, and the Question being put by the Clerk of the House, was unanimously *Resolved* in the affirmative.

Prayers by the Right Rev. Bishop *Perrin*.

The following Petitions were presented and received:—

By Mr. *Braden*, from *Henry C. Macaulay*, *Beaumont Boggs*, and *Sidney Shore*, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Alberni Water, Electric and Telephone Company."

By Mr. *Stoddart*, from "The Cariboo Gold Fields, Limited," for a Private Bill to consolidate their mining properties.

On the motion of Mr. *Braden*, the Petition from *H. C. Macaulay* and others, presented on the 4th instant, was withdrawn.

On the motion of Mr. *Rogers*,—

The Petitions from *Wm. Farvell*, *Thos. Dunn*, and *Donald McGillivray*, for a Private Bill for incorporation, and to consolidate their mining properties,

And from *David Oppenheimer*, *Thos. Dunn*, and *Donald McGillivray*, for a Private Bill for incorporation, and to consolidate their mining properties, were withdrawn.

The following Petitions were read and received:—

From *John Morgan Harris*, *F. T. Kelly*, and *G. M. Sproat*, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Sandon Water-Works and Light Company."

From *W. H. Armstrong*, *Robert Armstrong*, and *David Armstrong*, for a Private Bill to incorporate a company to operate traction engines on the *Cariboo Waggon Road*.

From *John A. Finch*, *Patrick Clark*, and *W. S. Norman*, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Rossland Land, Water and Light Company."

Mr. *Rithet* presented the First Report from the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,

VICTORIA, B. C., 6th February, 1896.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

1st. Statement of receipts from the C. P. R. Co. on account of the gross earnings of the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway for the six months ending the 31st December, 1895.

2nd. Statement of expenditure on the Parliament Buildings to 31st January, 1896.

3rd. Statement showing the premium on exchange from London on the balance of Loan, 1895, calculated at the par value of a £ @ \$4.85.

4th. Statement of receipts from the C. P. R. Co. on account of the gross earnings of the Nakusp and Slocan Railway from the opening of the road, 1st January, 1895, to the 31st December, 1895.

The detailed statements, numbered as above, are hereto attached.

R. P. RITHET,  
*Chairman.*

SHUSWAP AND OKANAGAN RAILWAY.

Statement of receipts from the C. P. R. Co. on account of the gross earnings of the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway for the six months ending the 31st December, 1895.

Three months ending 30th September, 1895 (40 % of the gross earnings) .....	\$2,611 87
Total for three months .....	\$2,611 87

NOTE.—Returns for the quarter ending 31st December, 1895, not received.

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS.

Statement of expenditure on the Parliament Buildings to 31st January, 1896.

Against appropriation of \$75,000 .....	\$ 72,847 46
Against <i>net</i> proceeds of Loan (\$525,909.52).....	408,914 12
Total .....	\$481,761 58

EXCHANGE ON LOAN OF 1895.

Statement showing the premium on exchange from London on the balance of Loan, 1895, calculated at the par value of a £ @ \$4.85.

£170,000 netted in Victoria 4.86 .....	\$1,700 00
£165,000 " " 4.87 .....	3,300 00
£ 16,845 19s. 3d. " " 4.86 $\frac{3}{4}$ .....	277 95
Net premium .....	\$5,277 95

NAKUSP AND SLOCAN RAILWAY.

Statement of receipts from the C. P. R. Co. on account of the gross earnings of the Nakusp and Slocan Railway, from the opening of the road (1st January, 1895) to the 31st December, 1895.

Six months ending 30th June, 1895 (40 % of the gross earnings) .....	\$3,364 36
Three " 30th Sept., " " " .....	3,330 43
Total for nine months .....	\$6,694 79

NOTE.—Returns for three months ending 31st December, 1895, not received.

The Report was received.

Mr. *Hunter* presented the Second Report from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
February 6th, 1896.

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. 8.—The Petition of F. E. Ward.

No. 7.—The Petition of A. E. Humphreys.

Your Committee beg leave to report, with reference to the Petition of Henry C. Macaulay, Beaumont Boggs, and Sidney Shore (No. 15), that inasmuch as the Petition did not comply with the notice, permission be granted to the Petitioners to withdraw the same, to enable the Petitioners to present a proper Petition.

Your Committee beg leave to report that, with reference to Rule 59, considerable difference of opinion exists as to the construction to be placed upon the words "district affected" (line 24 thereof), and as to what constitutes publication of a notice "for a period of at least six weeks during the interval of time between the close of the next preceding Session and the consideration of the Petition" (line 28 thereof), and your Committee respectfully request your ruling on the points submitted.

JOSEPH HUNTER,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 20) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Inferior Courts Practitioners Act' and amending Act."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

Mr. *Graham* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 25) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Line Fences and Water-courses Act' and amending Acts."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

Mr. *Graham* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 26) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Cattle Act' and amending Acts."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return showing the particulars of Revenue and Expenditure from 1st July, 1895, up to 31st December, 1895.

The motion was withdrawn.

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

Is it the intention of the Government, during the present Session, to amend section 26 of the "Assessment Act," as amended by section 8 of the "Assessment Act Amendment Act, 1891," so that mortgagees will be relieved from taxation on mortgages?

The Speaker ruled the question out of order.

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

What sum has been retained by the Government from each Contractor on Parliament Buildings as security for completion of contract?

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

"The approximate amount retained as security for the completion of contract on February 2nd, 1896, was:—

Contractor.	Amount retained.
F. Adams (Estate), mason . . . . .	\$15,000 00
Bishop & Sherbourne, joiners . . . . .	2,090 00
R. Drake, plasterer . . . . .	5,000 00
Albion Iron Works . . . . .	3,400 00
R. J. Nott, plumber . . . . .	1,018 00
W. H. Perry, coppersmith . . . . .	2,611 12
Cunningham & Hinton, electric light, &c. . . . .	700 00

The Report on Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Intestate Estate Act' and amending Act," was adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Notaries Appointment Act,'" was read a second time.

*Ordered* to be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act to amend the 'County Courts Act,'" was read a second time on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

<i>Forster,</i>	<i>Huff,</i>	<i>Walkem,</i>	<i>Irving,</i>
<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>Braden,</i>
<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Adams,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>	<i>McGregor—14.</i>
<i>Sword,</i>	<i>Stoddart,</i>		

NAYS :

Messieurs

<i>Kitchen,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Helmcken,</i>	<i>Rithet,</i>
<i>Kennedy,</i>	<i>Cotton,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Pooley,</i>
<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Smith,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Hunter—14.</i>
<i>Williams,</i>	<i>Mutter,</i>		

Mr. Speaker voted with the ayes.

Bill *Ordered* to be committed to-morrow.

At 3:30 p. m. the House adjourned until 3:45 p. m.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented a Return of copies of correspondence relating to the dismissal of the teacher of *Salmon Arm* School.

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* presented a Return of moneys received and paid by the Official Administrators of the Province, as required by section 13 of the "Official Administrators Act, 1890."

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* moved—That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2 o'clock on Monday next.

Mr. *Cotton* moved, in amendment—To strike out the word "next" and insert in lieu thereof the word "week."

Amendment negatived.

Original question carried.

Mr. Speaker decided, with reference to the questions submitted by the Private Bills Committee for his opinion—That the publication of notice in six issues of a weekly newspaper in the Electoral District affected by the Bill, would be a sufficient compliance with the spirit of Rule 59, and he would rule accordingly.

And then the House adjourned at 5:35 o'clock, p. m.

Monday, 10th February, 1896.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Hon. *D. W. Higgins*, Speaker of the House, being absent, the Hon. the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. *Williams*,—

That Mr. *Booth*, the Member for *North Victoria* District, do preside at this meeting of the House as Speaker, and the Question being put by the Clerk of the House, was unanimously *Resolved* in the affirmative.

Mr. *Stoddart* presented a Petition from *J. C. Barnes* and *W. Allan*, opposing Private Bill no operation of traction engines on the *Cariboo Road*.

Laid on the table.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented a statement of bonds deposited in the Provincial Secretary's Office by civil officers of the Province, for the due performance of their duties, under the "Civil Service Act."

Mr. *Hunter* presented the Third Report from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders, as follows :—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
February 10th, 1896.

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. 1—Petition of the British Columbia Southern Railway Company.

No. 4—Petition of the Nelson Electric Light Company, Limited.

No. 9—Petition of the New Westminster and Burrard Inlet Telephone Company, Limited.

No. 12—Petition of the Vernon and Nelson Telephone Company.

No. 17—Petition of *W. H. Armstrong*, *Robert Armstrong*, and *David Armstrong*.

No. 19—Petition of the *Cariboo Gold Fields, Limited (Foreign)*.

No. 20—Petition of *Henry C. Macaulay*, *Beaumont Boggs*, and *Sidney Shore*.

JOSEPH HUNTER,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

Mr. *Smith* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 31) intituled "An Act to amend the 'British Columbia Southern Railway Company's Act, 1894.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Railways.

Mr. *Kellie* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 32) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Columbia and Western Railway Company."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Railways.

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

Whereas a resolution is before this House pointing out the urgent necessity for a vessel to render assistance to vessels and their crews in case of shipwreck on the west coast of *Vancouver Island* :

And whereas in order to render such service of the greatest utility it is desirable that telegraphic communication should be maintained with as little interruption as practicable :

And whereas the telegraph line now existing between *Victoria* and *Carmanah Point*, on the west coast of *Vancouver Island*, is maintained and operated by a private company, and communication is frequently interrupted for long intervals on account of the wires being down :

And whereas this service is one which is of the greatest public importance and necessity, and might be made of greater utility and efficiency if managed and controlled by some of the departments of the Dominion Government at *Victoria* instead of as at present :

Be it *Resolved*, That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to press upon the Dominion Government the desirability of placing the telegraph line and service between *Victoria* and *Carmanah Point* under the direct management and control of some department of the Dominion Government at *Victoria*, with a view to its greater efficiency and utility in the public interest, humane as well as commercial.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for the report of the Provincial Auditor in reference to accounts of the Road Superintendent of *East Lillooet*, to be brought down to this House.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 27) intituled "An Act to repeal 'An Act to aid the Development of Quartz Mines' and amending Act."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act for the relief of the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Langley."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 29) intituled "An Act to further amend the 'Fire Insurance Policy Act, 1893.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

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

1. At what expense was the office of Mining Recorder removed from *Richfield* to *Barkerville* (i. e. to winter quarters)?
2. Was there any opposition to such removal on the part of the people living there?
3. Why was this office so removed?
4. Is the Assayer employed at *Barkerville* competent to assay refractory ores?
5. Has this Assayer ever passed an examination for assaying?
6. At what cost were the chlorination works erected?
7. Does the Government own the reduction works on *Island Mountain*? If so, have they been leased to any parties, and what rental is to be paid; also the term for which lease is to be held, and by whom?

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

"1. The Gold Commissioner was instructed to purchase a building at *Barkerville* not to exceed \$250, and \$50 for fitting up same. Vouchers for the expenditure have not been received at the Treasury.

"2. The Government was not aware of any opposition.

"3. It was deemed more convenient to the residents generally to have the office at Barkerville, it being the principal business centre of that section.

"4. This question is not in order.

"5. Yes.

"6. \$28,875.

"7. Yes. Leased on a rental of \$100 per annum, and 3 per cent. royalty on ores treated."

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

1. Is it the intention of the Government during the present Session, to amend section 26 of the "Assessment Act," as amended by section 8 of the "Assessment Act Amendment Act, 1891"?

2. If yes, what will be the nature of such amendment?

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

"No."

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented—

Return showing the terms upon which the settlement of the Railway Lands question between the Provincial and Dominion Governments was completed.

Supplementary Return of a copy of the Order in Council and all other papers in connection with the appointment of the Commissioner under chap. 50, B. C. Statutes 1895.

The Report on Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to prevent certain Animals from running at large, and respecting Injuries by Animals of a domestic nature," was considered.

Major *Mutter* moved to strike out the words "any sheep or lambs," on line four, section 5, and insert the words "any domestic animal."

Negatived.

Mr. *Kennedy* moved that sub-sec. (a) of sec. 2 be amended by adding the words "or rabbits."

Negatived on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Kitchen,</i>	<i>Forster,</i>	<i>Smith,</i>	<i>Helmcken,</i>
<i>Kennedy,</i>	<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Kellie,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>
<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Mutter,</i>	<i>Pooley—12.</i>

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Graham,</i>	<i>Adams,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>
<i>Sword,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Stoddart,</i>	<i>Hunter,</i>
<i>Williams,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>McGregor—13.</i>
<i>Cotton,</i>			

Mr. *Helmcken* moved to add to section 5 the following clause:—

"On complaint made in writing on oath before any Justice of the Peace, or before any Stipendiary or Police Magistrate, that any person owns or has in his possession a dog which has, within the space of six months then last past, bitten or attempted to bite any person, such Justice or Magistrate may issue his summons directed to such owner or possessor, stating shortly the matter of such complaint and requiring such person to appear before him at a certain time and place therein stated, to answer to such complaint and to be further dealt with according to law."

Negatived.

Mr. *Semlin* moved to amend clause 3, sub-section (c), by striking out "November" and inserting "December" in lieu hereof.

Carried.

The further consideration of the Report was adjourned until to-morrow.

The Honourable Mr. *Martin* 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 provide a Fund for Educational Purposes by sale of Public Lands," and in accordance with the provisions contained in section 54 of the "British North America Act, 1867," he recommends the Bill to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*10th February, 1896.*

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

Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Notaries Appointment Act,'" was committed, with Mr. *Stoddart* in the Chair.

The Committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.  
Leave granted for to-morrow.

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

1. Are there any physicians receiving Government aid where more than one practise in the same district?
2. If any, how many?
3. If any, name and district.
4. If any, at whose request were such grant or grants, and appointment or appointments, made?
5. If by petition from residents of district, give names on such petition.

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

"1. Assuming that the question means, 'Is there more than one physician in any Electoral District receiving Government aid?' The answer is 'Yes.'

"2. Five. Two.

"3. Yale District—A. M. Sutton, Nicola; E. J. Offerhaus, Spallumcheen; J. R. Williams, Ashcroft; B. F. Boyce, Okanagan Mission; R. W. Jakes, Midway. Cariboo District—M. Callanan, lower part of; H. Watt, 150-Mile House.

"4. A. M. Sutton, J. R. Williams—by petition.

"5. Names of persons who signed the petition praying for the appointment of Dr. J. R. Williams as Resident Physician at Ashcroft:—

Field Yolland,	Fred. Tingley,	E. Dougherty,	Daniel O'Hara,
R. Biddulph Pinchard,	Wm. Gargile,	Walter Fearn,	J. J. Mackay,
Walter Langley,	Jas. A. Newland,	Jas. D. Kirkpatrick,	O. H. Evans,
W. B. Gladwin,	Donald McLeod,	J. Lehman,	Geo. A. Bouley,
W. B. V. Bailey,	C. H. Smith,	J. C. Smith,	Peter Andop,
J. S. Lawrence,	Jas. Haddock,	Philip Parke,	John Linnehan,
W. Lyne,	John J. Mitchell,	Thos. Mowbray,	J. Rowland,
Walter Shaw,	J. W. H. King,	O. M. Dutton,	P. W. Murray,
Gilbert Munroe,	D. McKay,	Peter Eagan,	Joseph W. Burr,
James Young,	A. S. Van Alstyne,	T. O'Brien,	Angus Armstrong.
W. R. Puckett,	R. Nesbitt,	C. A. Semlin,	

"Names of persons who signed the petition praying for the appointment of Dr. A. M. Sutton as Resident Physician at Nicola:—

J. B. Greaves,	William Riley,	George Stuart,	Rev. G. Murray,
for D. L. C. Co.,	Geo. C. Bent,	Caleb Woodward,	Paul I. Gillie,
John Clapperton,	A. E. Howse,	John Clark,	Geo. Clapperton,
Samuel Moore,	Edwin Dalley,	John Gilmore,	W. Pooley."
Thomas Carrington,			

The Report on Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Royal Inland Hospital," was adopted.

*Ordered* to be read a third time to-morrow.

Bill (No. 12) intituled "An Act respecting Wages," was read a second time.

*Ordered* to be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 25) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Line Fences and Water-courses Act,' and Amending Acts," was read a second time.

*Ordered* to be committed to-morrow.

Mr. *Graham* moved—That Bill (No. 26) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Cattle Act and Amending Acts,'" be read a second time now.

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

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

Whereas cases of shipwreck have occurred in British Columbia waters, involving loss of life and much suffering to the distressed seamen:

And whereas prompt aid and assistance could be rendered in many of such cases, whereby death might be averted, succour afforded, and much valuable property preserved, if a suitable vessel were kept in commission throughout the year, and stationed at the port of *Victoria*:

Be it Resolved, That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to press upon the Dominion Government the urgent necessity existing for providing such suitable vessel at an early date—

was resumed, and the question *Resolved* in the affirmative.

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

And then the House adjourned at 4:15 o'clock, p. m.

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Tuesday, 11th February, 1896.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

The Hon. *D. W. Higgins*, Speaker of the House, being absent, the Hon. the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*,—

That Mr. *Booth*, the Member for *North Victoria* District, do preside at this meeting of the House as Speaker, and the Question being put by the Clerk of the House, was unanimously *Resolved* in the affirmative.

Mr. *Rogers* presented a Petition from *W. H. Maclaren*, *Jno. S. Gillis*, and others, residents of *Cariboo District*, in favour of passage of Private Bill authorizing use of traction engines on the *Cariboo Road*.

Laid on the table.

The Petition from *J. C. Barnes* and *W. Allan*, opposing Private Bill *re* operation of traction engines on the *Cariboo Road*, was received and *Ordered* to be printed.

Pursuant to Order, the House went into Committee of the Whole to consider Message of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor transmitting Bill (No. 30) intituled "An Act to provide a Fund for Educational Purposes by sale of Public Lands," with Mr. *Stoddart* in the Chair.

The Committee reported the following Resolution:—

*Resolved*, That the Committee rise and report to the House, recommending the introduction of "An Act to provide a Fund for Educational Purposes by sale of Public Lands," a draft of which is annexed to this Resolution.

Report adopted on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

<i>Huff,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Stoddart,</i>	<i>Rogers,</i>
<i>Smith,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Walkem,</i>	<i>Hunter,</i>
<i>Kellie,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Braden,</i>
<i>Mutter,</i>	<i>Rithet,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>McGregor—19.</i>
<i>Helmcken,</i>	<i>Adams,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>	

NAYS :

Messieurs

<i>Kitchen,</i>	<i>Forster,</i>	<i>Sword,</i>	<i>Cotton,</i>
<i>Kennedy,</i>	<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Williams,</i>	<i>Graham—11.</i>
<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	

The Bill was then introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

Mr. *Rogers* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 33) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Vernon and Nelson Telephone Company Act, 1891.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders.

Mr. *Adams* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 34) intituled "An Act to amend the 'New Westminster and Burrard Inlet Telephone Company's Incorporation Act, 1886.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders.

Mr. *Kellie* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 35) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Nelson Electric Light Company, Limited, Act, 1892.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders.

Mr. *Rogers* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Ashcroft and Cariboo Railway Company."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Railways.

Mr. *Hunter* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 37) intituled "An Act respecting the Incorporation of the Pacific Gold and Silver Mining Company."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders.

Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Notaries Appointment Act,'" was again considered in Committee, with Mr. *Stoddart* in the Chair.

The Bill was reported complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 20) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Inferior Courts Practitioners Act' and amending Act," was read a second time.

*Ordered* to be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 27) intituled "An Act to repeal 'An Act to aid the Development of Quartz Mines' and amending Act," was read a second time and committed, with Mr. *McGregor* in the Chair.

Bill reported complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act for the relief of the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Langley," was read a second time and committed, with Mr. *Hume* in the Chair.

The Committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Leave granted for to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* moved that Bill (No. 29) intituled "An Act to further amend the 'Fire Insurance Policy Act, 1893,'" be read a second time now.

A debate arose, which was adjourned until Monday next.

Bill (No. 17) intituled "An Act respecting Co-operative Associations," was read a second time and *Ordered* to be committed to-morrow.

The Order for the committal of Bill (No. 25) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Line Fences and Water-courses Act' and amending Acts," was discharged.

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

And then the House adjourned at 4:45 o'clock, p. m.

Wednesday, 12th February, 1896.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Hon. *D. W. Higgins*, Speaker of the House, being absent, the Hon. the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*,—

That Mr. *Booth*, the Member for *North Victoria* District, do preside at this meeting of the House as Speaker, and the Question being put by the Clerk of the House, was unanimously *Resolved* in the affirmative.

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

Mr. *Rogers* presented a Petition from "The Montreal Hydraulic Mining Company, Limited," and others, in favour of a Private Bill *re* operating traction engines on the *Cariboo Road*.

Laid on the table.

Mr. *Hunter* presented the Fourth Report from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
February 12th, 1896.

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. 18—Petition of Finch, Clarke, and Norman.

No. 14—In the matter of the Petition of the Anglo-Western Pioneer Syndicate, Limited, your Committee beg to report that the notice in the British Columbia Gazette is sufficient, but that the time for the notice in the Rossland "Record" will not expire until the 14th instant. Under these circumstances, your Committee recommends to the House that the rules should be considered as sufficiently complied with.

No. 13—In the matter of the Petition of the New Westminster and Vancouver Short Line Railway, your Committee beg to report that the Standing Rules have not been complied with in regard to notices.

JOSEPH HUNTER,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* presented a Return showing the instructions under which the conversion of the Loans of 1877 and 1887 is being proceeded with, and in what manner the rate of conversion is arrived at.

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

1. The number of leases granted for fishing stations.
2. The size and location of such fishing stations, and date when issued.
3. The conditions and terms of leases.
4. The rent derived (if any) from such leases.
5. The number of leases held by each individual or company.
6. The number of leases applied for not yet granted.

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Report of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works of the Province for the year ending 31st December, 1895.

Mr. *Rogers* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 38) intituled "An Act respecting the Lillooet, Fraser River and Cariboo Gold Fields, Limited."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders.

Mr. *Williams* moved, seconded by Mr. *Semin*,—

Whereas this Legislature, on the 30th day of March, 1894, by Resolution, expressed an opinion that it was highly desirable and necessary that one of the Supreme Court Judges should reside in *Vancouver* Judicial District, and that the Dominion Government should be urged to direct, in case another Supreme Court Judge should be appointed, that he should be appointed to reside in *Vancouver* Judicial District:

And whereas this Legislature, at its Session of 1894-5, passed a Resolution that the Government should introduce legislation for the purpose of enforcing the residence of a Supreme Court Judge at *Vancouver City*:

And whereas, in compliance with the last recited Resolution, legislation was introduced and passed:

And whereas doubts exist as to the efficacy of such legislation:

And whereas a vacancy now exists in the Judiciary of the Supreme Court of this Province:

And whereas it is desirable that the Judge to be appointed to fill such vacancy should be required to reside at the City of *Vancouver*:

Therefore be it Resolved, That this Government urge upon the Dominion Government the desire of this Legislature that the Judge to be appointed to fill the vacancy in the Judiciary of the Supreme Court of this Province should be compelled to reside at the City of *Vancouver*, or in the immediate neighbourhood thereof.

Mr. *Kellie* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Hunter*,—

To strike out, in lines 3 and 5, the words "*Vancouver* Judicial District," and insert in lieu thereof the words "*Kootenay* Judicial District;" to strike out, in line 14, "*City of Vancouver*," and insert "some town in *West Kootenay*;" and to strike out, in line 17, "*City of Vancouver*," and insert "some town in *West Kootenay*."

A debate arose, which was adjourned until Monday next.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all papers and correspondence in connection with the floating of the recent loan for £420,000 in *London*, including a copy of the prospectus on which the loan was issued, and copies of all instructions given to Messrs. *Woolston & Beeton*.

Mr. *Adams* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 39) intituled "An Act to preserve the Trunk Road between *Ashcroft* and *Barkerville*."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Friday next.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return to this House of the reports of the Provincial Auditors in reference to the accounts of *W. H. Falding* and *James Charles Prevost*.

Major *Mutter* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 40) intituled "An Act to authorize the Anglo-Western Pioneer Syndicate, Limited, to construct Water-works and Electrical and other Works in the vicinity of *Trail* and *Rossland*."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders.

Mr. *Rogers* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 41) intituled "An Act respecting the Incorporation of the Inland Transportation Company, 1896."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders.

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

1. Why were *Moore* and *Wrong* refused their application for a hotel licence at *Sandon* last year?

2. Were there any objections raised by any person that prevented *Moore* and *Wrong* from receiving a licence?

3. Who was the party, if any, who raised the objections?

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

"1. Application was made to the Stipendiary Magistrate of the District, and, it is understood, was refused on account of the protest by the owners of the property on which the premises for which the licence was applied were erected.

"2. Yes.

"3. G. M. Sproat, on behalf of J. M. Harris and himself, as owners of the property."

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

Does the Government contemplate taking any steps towards testing the constitutionality (under the Supreme Court Reference Act, or otherwise) of that section of the "Coal Mines Regulation Act" which prohibits the employment of Chinese in the underground workings of the British Columbia Collieries?

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

"Yes."

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

1. What Scalers have been appointed for the Province under section 4 of the "Official Scalers' Act, 1894?"
2. What are their names and salaries?
3. What bonds have been given for each?
4. What precautions have been taken to secure that logs on which royalty is leviable are measured on the official scale by the Official Scaler?
5. Are the various Timber Inspectors Official Log Scalers?
6. If so, have they all passed the examination required of others?

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

"1. One for District No. 1, and two for District No. 2, as defined by Proclamation published in the British Columbia Gazette on 16th August, 1894.

"2. J. Warren Bell, T. B. Tiffin, and G. W. DeBeck; \$100 per month each.

"3. \$500, with the London Guarantee and Accident Company, Limited.

"4. The Provincial Timber Inspector issued instructions to the Official Scalers to carry out the provisions of the 'Official Scalers Act, 1894,' and the Official Scalers have each subscribed to the oath of office required by the Act.

"5. Only when authorized so to act temporarily by the Provincial Timber Inspector, as provided by the Act.

"6. The Act does not contemplate the passing of an examination by persons so employed temporarily as scalers."

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

Did the Government receive any intimation that they could have the amount of the loan of £420,000 subscribed in *Victoria*? If so, what was the rate offered, and what would have been the net amount received by the Government?

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

"No. The Government received a proposal in *Victoria* for subscription in *London*. The rate offered was  $92\frac{1}{2}$ , less  $\frac{5}{8}$  of one per cent. commutation tax, for inscribed stock delivered. From this a further deduction had to be made of  $\frac{1}{4}$  % brokerage, and  $\frac{1}{4}$  % bank of issue, and some incidental expenses for completion of inscribed stock. Not knowing the amount of incidental expenses, cannot state the net amount that would have been received."

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

Did you state in *Montreal*, as reported in the "Colonist" of 2nd October last, that parties went on the Stock Exchange in *London* and offered British Columbia bonds at a lower rate than they were selling at when you arrived there?

What amount of bonds were so offered?

Did you call the attention of the Trustees for the Sinking Funds of the Province to this opportunity of making a profitable investment of any funds in their hands?

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

"I stated that I was informed, a short time before the issue of the B. C. loan, that parties were endeavouring to depreciate the credit of the Province by bearing the stock, and that offers were actually made of the stock at a decline from previous rates.

"I cannot say the amount so offered.

"I did not advise the Trustees."

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

1. Has the Government appointed any person as an Immigration Agent to Eastern Canada or the United Kingdom?
2. If so, what is the name of such person; the amount of his salary, and any allowances made him for expenses?

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

- “1. No.
- “2. No.”

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

1. Was not the attention of the Government, and the Attorney-General's Department in particular, drawn to the irregularities in *J. C. Prevost's* office; if so, when was such attention first drawn to such irregularities?
2. Does the Government propose to make good to private parties the amounts lost to them by the defalcations of said *Prevost* acting in his official capacity?

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

- “1. Yes. August 16th, 1895.
- “2. All Court funds appropriated by *J. C. Prevost* have been replaced by the Government.”

Bill (No. 20) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Inferior Courts Practitioners Act’ and amending Act,” was committed, with Mr. *Kidd* in the Chair.

Bill reported complete with amendments.

Report *Ordered* to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 28) intituled “An Act for the relief of the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Langley,” was again committed.

The Committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Leave granted for this day week.

Bill (No. 17) intituled “An Act respecting Co-operative Associations,” was committed, with Mr. *Royers* in the Chair.

The Committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Leave granted for to-morrow.

Mr. *Helmcken* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 42) intituled “An Act to amend an Act to incorporate the Consolidated Railway and Light Company, and to consolidate certain Acts relating thereto.”

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:40 o'clock, p. m.

Thursday, 13th February, 1896.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Hon. *D. W. Higgins*, Speaker of the House, being absent, the Hon. the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. *Semin*,—

That Mr. *Booth*, the Member for *North Victoria* District, do preside at this meeting of the House as Speaker, and the Question being put by the Clerk of the House, was unanimously *Resolved* in the affirmative.

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

The Petition from "The Montreal Hydraulic Mining Company, Limited," and others, in favour of a Private Bill *re* operating traction engines on the *Cariboo Road*, was received.

The Petition from *W. H. MacLaren, Jno. S. Gillis*, and others, residents of *Cariboo District*, in favour of the same Bill, was ruled out of order, as not being addressed to the House.

Mr. *Hunter* presented the Fifth Report from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
February 13th, 1896.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

That the Standing Orders have been complied with in regard to the following Petition:—  
No. 16—Petition of the Sandon Water-Works Company.

JOSEPH HUNTER,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

Mr. *Graham* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 43) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Line Fences and Water-courses Act,' and amending Acts."

Introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

Mr. *Helmcken* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 44) intituled "An Act to amend 'An Act to amend the Distress for Rent Act, 1895.'"

Introduced and read a first time.

*Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return showing—

(a.) The amount received as fees for log scaling up to 31st December, 1895.

(b.) The localities where such logs were scaled, the amounts of each boom so scaled, and the names of the Scalers in each case.

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

Why was *Nanaimo* omitted from the scheduled list of lectures by the Provincial Mineralogist?

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

"The delay of the arrival in the Province of the Provincial Mineralogist, and the limited time at his disposal before he entered upon his office duties, necessitated the abandonment of the original intention that he should lecture in *Nanaimo*. It was also found that Mr. *Pellew Harvey* could not spare the time to lecture beyond the limits of *Vancouver* and *New Westminster*."

Bill (No. 17) intituled "An Act respecting Co-operative Associations," was again committed.

The Committee reported progress.

Leave given to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act to amend the 'County Courts Act,'" was committed, with Mr. *Adams* in the Chair.

Bill reported complete without amendment.

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

The Report on Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to prevent certain Animals from running at large, and respecting Injuries by Animals of a domestic nature," was further considered.

Mr. *Sword* moved to amend section 4 by striking out the word "enclosed" on the third line thereof.

Carried.

Mr. *Kennedy* moved—That in the third line of section 15, after the word "swine," the word "rabbits" be inserted.

Carried.

Report, as amended, adopted.

*Ordered* to be read a third time to-morrow.

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

By Mr. *McGregor*—Bill (No. 45) intituled "An Act respecting the Incorporation of the Rossland Water and Light Company."

By Mr. *McGregor*—Bill (No. 46) intituled "An Act respecting the Incorporation of the Sandon Water-Works and Light Company."

By Mr. *Braden*—Bill (No. 47) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Alberni Water, Electric and Telephone Company, Limited."

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

And then the House adjourned at 4:40 o'clock, p. m.

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## Friday, 14th February, 1896.

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TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Hon. *D. W. Higgins*, Speaker of the House, being absent, the Hon. the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*,—

That Mr. *Booth*, the Member for *North Victoria* District, do preside at this meeting of the House as Speaker, and the Question being put by the Clerk of the House, was unanimously *Resolved* in the affirmative.

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

Mr. *Rithel* presented the Second Report from the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,

VICTORIA, B. C., 14th February, 1896.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

The Committee finds that the Returns submitted by the C. P. R., Lessees of the Shuswap & Okanagan and Nakusp & Slocan Railways, do not furnish details of the quantity

of freight or the number of passengers carried, or the rates charged for the freight and passengers carried on the said railways, nor are the detailed particulars of the mails or sundries given.

For the quarter ending on the 31st December, 1895, the amount returned by the C. P. R. Co. is \$3,037.94 for the Shuswap & Okanagan Railway, and for the Nakusp & Slocan Railway \$3,585.74.

The Committee finds that the present rate of interest allowed on deposits by the Bank of British Columbia is 3 %.

R. P. RITHET,  
Chairman.

The Report was received.

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

Whereas in the year 1892, from June to November, the Cities of *Victoria*, *Vancouver*, and other portions of the Province of British Columbia, including certain sections of the Mainland upon both sides of the International Boundary Line, were visited by small-pox; and

Whereas a Royal Commission reported that that outbreak of small-pox was directly traceable to Chinese, who, with their baggage, had shortly before then landed from the regular Oriental steamers plying between British Columbia and the Orient; and

Whereas the epidemic which broke out in *Montreal* some nine or ten years ago, and thence spread through the Province of *Quebec*, portions of *Ontario*, and some of the Eastern States, was proven to have been brought over in a similar manner; and

Whereas the Medical Health Officer of the City of *Victoria*, on his return from a visit to China and Japan in 1894, reported to the *Victoria* Board of Health, as a result of his investigations in those countries on sanitary matters, that cholera, small-pox, leprosy, and other infectious and contagious diseases were endemic there, particularly in *Canton*, a city that furnishes the greater number of our Oriental immigrants; and

Whereas in the opinion of the most eminent English speaking medical authorities emphatically expressed, the sanitary conditions which obtain in those countries are such that zymotic and other contagious diseases cannot fail to be always present there; and

Whereas the Japanese army returning from infected districts in Northern China in the summer of 1895 introduced the cholera epidemic into Japan, which carried off a larger number of Japanese than were actually killed in war, serves to show the extent to which these countries are the habitat of death-dealing pestilence; and

Whereas it is well known that the cradle of cholera is in India, that it has worked its way along the line of traffic through Western Europe, and across the Atlantic, necessitating the enforcement of vigorous quarantine regulations by the Dominion Government at *Grosse Isle*, *Quebec*, to the extent of disinfecting the baggage of immigrants from those countries, even when no disease was found on board; and

Whereas *Williams' Head* is the first port of entry into Canada from those cholera infected shores, being only twelve days distant, and steamers therefrom touching here every tenth day; and

Whereas the forewarnings we have had, and the bitter experiences we have been subjected to, emphasize most strongly the necessity for adopting the most effectual measures for preventing the introduction of these diseases into this country;

Therefore, be it Resolved, That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to direct the attention of the Dominion authorities to the paramount obligations which devolve upon them to enforce the most stringent quarantine regulations on this coast, and to turn to the utmost possible account the splendid facilities afforded at *Williams' Head* for the examination and disinfection of all the baggage of Orientals who may seek to enter the Dominion by way of this Province; and

Be it further Resolved, That the Department of Agriculture be memorialized on the subject of the leper colony at *Darcy Island*, the maintenance of which should have the most serious and careful attention of the Federal Authorities.

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

How much money has been received during 1895 for surveyed land, according to the Land Amendment Act of last Session?

Also, how much has been received for unsurveyed land during said year, under same law?

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

“Of the arrears upon pre-emptions and purchases outstanding on the 21st February, 1895, and collected under authority of the ‘Land Act Amendment Act, 1895,’ there was paid between that date and the 31st December last—

On surveyed lands . . . . .	\$25,732 13
On unsurveyed lands . . . . .	2,416 78
Amount received for lands acquired under authority of clause 9 of said Act	2,674 50”

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

What amount was expended in opening the road on the west side of the *Bonaparte*, in section 3, of *T. Barton's* superintendence?

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

“\$838.32.”

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

1. Has the Government succeeded in bringing the conflicting judgments as to the constitutionality of the Small Debts Act before the Full Court?
2. If so, when was the matter argued?
3. When will the proposed amendments to the Act be submitted to the House?
4. Is it the intention of the Government at the present Session to so amend the said Act as to eliminate section 52 and the Schedule passed in pursuance thereof?

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

“1. Not yet.

“3. The Government is awaiting full returns from the Magistrates exercising jurisdiction under the said Act before submitting any amendments.

“4. When returns are received the Government will deal with the matter.”

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* moved—That Bill (No. 30) intituled “An Act to provide a Fund for Educational Purposes by sale of Public Lands,” be read a second time now.

A debate arose, which was adjourned until the next sitting of the House.

The Report on Bill (No. 20) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Inferior Courts Practitioners Act’ and amending Act,” was considered.

Mr. *Kellie* moved to insert in section 3, line 2, after the word “District,” the following:—  
“with the exception of that portion of the North Riding not included in the Trail Creek Mining Division.”

Carried.

Report, as amended, adopted.

Ordered to be read a third time at the next sitting of the House.

Bill (No. 24) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Homestead Act,’” was committed.

Bill reported complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Mr. *Huff* presented a Petition from *J. P. Galbraith* and others, residents of *Alberni*, opposing *Alberni Water-Works Bill*.

Received.

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

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