

Friday, 15th April, 1898.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Dr. *Campbell*.

On the motion of Mr. *Semlin*, Bill (No. 50) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Legal Professions Act,'" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* presented a Return of a copy of the Order in Council referred to in the letter of the Hon. *G. B. Martin* of 1st December, 1897, to *J. B. McArthur*, Esq., *Rossland*; and also a statement of the understanding arrived at with that gentleman, as mentioned in same letter.

Bill (No. 26) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Canadian Yukon Railway Company," was read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 47) intituled "An Act respecting the Municipality of Grand Forks," was committed, with Mr. *Walkem* in the Chair.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed:—

Bill (No. 17) intituled "An Act respecting the Nanaimo Electric Light, Power and Heating Company, Limited."

Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act respecting the Canadian Pacific Navigation Company, Limited."

Bill (No. 37) intituled "An Act to authorise the Cowichan Lumber Company, Limited, to construct a Dam and Works on the Cowichan River, in the Quamichan District, and also to construct a Tramway to connect the said Dam and Works with a point at or near the mouth of the Cowichan River."

Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Red Mountain Tunnel Company, Limited."

Bill (No. 39) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Portland and Stickine Railway Company," was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered on Monday next.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Eberts*, Bill (No. 51) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Columbia and Western Railway Subsidy Act, 1896,'" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time on Monday next.

Mr. *Smith* moved that Bill (No. 44) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Mineral Act,'" be read a second time now.

Mr. Speaker *Booth*: This Bill deals with revenue and Crown lands. In section 4 an additional recording fee of \$10 is imposed, and section 5 deals with Crown grants. The Bill cannot be introduced by a private member. (*See Speaker's Decisions*, 125.)

The Order for the second reading of Bill (No. 45) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Placer Mining Act'" was discharged.

Mr. *Kellie* moved that Bill (No. 46) intituled "The Truck Act" be read a second time now.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* moved in amendment—To leave out all words after the word "be" and insert "referred to a Select Committee of the House, composed of Messrs. *Bryden*, *Smith*, *Walkem*, *Kellie*, and *Sword*, to consider the same and recommend amendments thereto, and to report to this House, with power to the said Committee to call for persons, books, and papers."

The amendment was negatived on the following division :—

## YEAS :

## Messieurs

<i>Huff,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Walkem,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>
<i>Smith,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Rogers—11.</i>
<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Adams,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	

## NAYS :

## Messieurs

<i>Sword,</i>	<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Graham,</i>	<i>Irving,</i>
<i>Kennedy,</i>	<i>Williams,</i>	<i>Kellie,</i>	<i>Braden,</i>
<i>Forster,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Mutter,</i>	<i>McGregor—15.</i>
<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Cotton,</i>	<i>Higgins,</i>	

Bill read a second time.

To be committed on Monday next.

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

THOS. R. MCINNES,  
*Lieutenant-Governor.*

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits herewith a Bill intituled “ An Act for the encouragement of Trades and Agriculture by the establishment of Mutual Credit Associations,” and in pursuance of section 54 of the “ British North America Act, 1867,” recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*15th April, 1898.*

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

## (IN THE COMMITTEE.)

*Resolved,* That the Committee rise and report to the House, recommending the introduction of Bill (No. 49) intituled “ An Act for the encouragement of Trades and Agriculture by the establishment of Mutual Credit Associations.”

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

Report adopted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time on Monday next.

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* presented a further Return of copies of Orders in Council in any way relating to the land grant to the *Nelson & Fort Sheppard Railway Company*; also copies of all correspondence between any member of the Government and any person or persons on behalf of or in relation to the said Railway Company.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:20 o'clock, P. M.

Monday, 18th April, 1898.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented the Report of the Agent-General for the Province of British Columbia for the year 1897.

On the motion of Mr. *Helmcken*, Bill (No. 52) intituled "An Act for amending the 'Provincial Elections Act,' by extending to Women the Franchise of Voting," was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return showing all official reports in respect to the "Burnaby Small Holdings," made since the one dated 2nd February, 1897.

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

The cost, approximately, to the Province of the following work and material used in completing the revision of the Statutes :—Binding first revision or report ; binding second revision or report ; printing first report ; printing second report ; paper, &c. ?

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

"FIRST REVISION.

"Printing (approximate).....	\$4,000
"Paper " .....	420
"Binding " .....	340
	—————\$ 4,760

"FINAL REVISION.

"Printing (approximate).....	\$4,300
"Paper " .....	3,300
"Binding " .....	4,120
	————— 11,720
	\$16,480."

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

(a.) When did the *Kaslo and Slocan Railway Company* file with the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works notice of their having selected Lot 873, Group I., *Kootenay District*, under the provisions of chapter 37 of the Statutes of 1892, and what is the wording of such notice ?

(b.) Under what section of chapter 37 of the Statutes of 1892 was the selection of Lot 873, Group I., *Kootenay District*, made ?

(c.) When was the said lot surveyed, and by whom ?

(d.) What is its acreage, and what are measurements of its exterior boundaries ?

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

"(a.) 24th July, 1896.

"KASLO, B. C., July 18th, 1896.

"To W. S. Gore, Esquire,

"Deputy Commissioner Lands and Works,

"Victoria, B. C.

"SIR,—I have the honour to forward, for record in your Department, tracings, shewing, approximately, certain blocks of land which have been selected by the above Company under the provisions of their Subsidy Acts, 1892 and 1894, viz. : Selections 35 to 39, inclusive.

"Survey parties are now in the field for the purpose of surveying the above selections.

"I have the honour to be,

"Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"J. H. GRAY,

"Land Commissioner.

"(b.) Section 5.

"(c.) Selection No. 37 was surveyed by C. E. Woods, January, 1897, and designated Lot 873.

"(d.) 428 acres; western boundary, 80 chains; southern boundary, 80 chains; eastern boundary,  $21\frac{21}{100}$  chains; and northern boundary is the shore line of Kootenay Lake.

"NOTE.—This lot counts as 640 acres, against the area to be included in the Company's land grants."

The Order for the second reading of Bill (No. 49) intituled "An Act for the encouragement of Trades and Agriculture by the establishment of Mutual Credit Associations" was discharged, and the Bill referred to the Select Committee appointed to enquire into the methods pursued in other countries to help farmers to obtain loans on easy terms.

The Report on Bill (No. 47) intituled "An Act respecting the Municipality of Grand Forks" was adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Order called for the House to consider Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the East Kootenay Valley Railway Company" in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. *Sword* moved—That it be an instruction to the Committee to consider the insertion of a new section as follows:—

"The Company shall, within six months after the passage of this Act, deposit with the Provincial Government the sum of \$5,000, either in cash or approved bonds, as security that the Company will expend not less than \$10,000, in surveys or construction of the railway hereby authorised to be built, before the 30th June, 1899, and in default of such expenditure the aforesaid sum of \$5,000 shall be forfeited to and become the property of the Government, as liquidated and ascertained damages, and not as a penalty; and should such security not be deposited with the Government within the aforesaid time, all the rights and privileges conferred by this Act shall be null and void."

Carried.

House in Committee on the Bill, with Mr. *Huff* in the Chair.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, which read as follows:—

THOS. R. McINNES,

*Lieutenant-Governor.*

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

*Government House,*

*18th April, 1898.*

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

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

*Resolved,* That the Committee rise and report to the House, recommending the introduction of Bill (No. 44) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Mineral Act,'" "

Mr. *Walkem*, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Resolution and the Bill.  
 Report adopted.  
 Bill introduced and read a first time.  
 Bill read a second time.  
 To be committed to-morrow.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, which read as follows:—

THOS. R. McINNES,  
*Lieutenant-Governor.*

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

*Government House,*  
*18th April, 1898.*

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

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

*Resolved,* That the Committee rise and report to the House, recommending the introduction of Bill (No. 45) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Placer Mining Act.'"

Mr. *Walkem*, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Resolution and the Bill.  
 Report adopted.  
 Bill introduced and read a first time.  
 Bill read a second time.  
 To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 41) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Tramway Company Incorporation Act,'" was again committed.  
 Progress reported.  
 Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 39) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Portland and Stickine Railway Company," was adopted.  
 Third reading to-morrow.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
 18th April, 1898.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That the following Returns were submitted and ordered to be printed :

- 1 & 1A. Returns, Revelstoke Protection Works.
  2. Return, Clergymen Justices of the Peace.
  3. Return in relation to the "Alien Labour Act, 1897."
  4. Return, Creamery Company Loans.
  5. Return, correspondence Hon. G. B. Martin and J. B. McArthur, Esq., Rossland.
- All of which are respectfully submitted.

J. M. MUTTER,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

On the motion of Mr. *Vedder*, seconded by Mr. *Kidd*, it was *Resolved*,—  
 That an Order of the House be granted for all papers and correspondence in connection with the removal or resignation of the Commissioners of *Matsqui Dyking District*.

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

And then the House adjourned at 4 o'clock, P. M.

Tuesday, 19th April, 1898.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *P. Jenms*.

Bill (No. 51) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Columbia and Western Railway Subsidy Act, 1896,'" was read a second time and committed, with Mr. *Kidd* in the Chair.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

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

To be read a second time to-morrow.

Order called for the consideration of (Bill No. 44) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Mineral Act'" in Committee of the Whole.

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

That it be an instruction to the Mining Committee to consider the following as section 3 of chapter 135 of the Revised Statutes:—

1. Section 3 of the 'Mineral Act, 1897,' is hereby repealed, and the following enacted in lieu thereof:—

"3. Every person over eighteen years of age, and being a British subject, or being an alien, upon his making a declaration of his intention to become a British subject before any person authorised to take affidavits or affirmations under the 'Oaths Act, 1892,' or before the Gold Commissioner or Mining Recorder, which declaration shall be in the Form U in the Schedule to this Act, and upon his filing the same with the Mining Recorder, and every joint stock company, shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of a free miner, and shall be considered a free miner, upon taking out a free miner's certificate. A minor who shall become a free miner shall, as regards his mining property and liabilities contracted in connection therewith, be treated as of full age. A free miner's certificate issued to a joint stock company shall be issued in its corporate name. A free miner's certificate shall not be transferable."

Mr. Speaker ruled the motion out of order, on the grounds:—

1. That the motion was improperly drawn, as referring to the Select Committee on Mining, and not to the Committee of the Whole on Bill 44.

2. That the proposed section would have the effect of very largely reducing the number of persons who may become free miners and entitled to free miners' certificates, and thus would cause a considerable reduction of the revenue derived by the Crown from that source. It, therefore, interferes with taxation. (*See Speakers' Decisions*, pp. 119 and 127.)

The Report on Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Kootenay and North-West Railway Company" was considered.

Mr. *Hunter* moved to strike out section 48 and insert in lieu thereof the following:—

"48. The Company shall commence section one within two years and complete said section within three years, and complete section two within four years, and shall commence section three within two years and complete said section within four years from the date of the passage of this Act; and complete the remaining sections of the line of railway within the following times, namely: Section four within six years, section five within seven years, and section six within eight years from the date of the passing of this Act. Nevertheless, failure to complete any one or more of the said sections, or portions of any section, within the time so limited for the completion of the same respectively, shall not prejudice the rights, powers or privileges of the Company in respect of such part or parts (if any) of the sections as to which such failure shall be made as shall, at the expiration of such limited time, be made and completed, or in respect of any section or sections as to which the period so limited for the completion thereof shall not have been determined."

Mr. *Semlin* moved in amendment to the amendment—After the word “within,” on fourth line, to strike out all the words down to the word “years,” on sixth line, and insert “six years.”

Amendment to the amendment carried.

Amendment, as amended, carried.

Report, as amended, adopted.

To be read a third time to-morrow.

Bill (No. 39) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Portland and Stickine Railway Company” was read a third time and passed.

HALF-PAST THREE O’CLOCK, P. M.

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

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

(No. 34) An Act to amend the “Provincial Elections Act.”

(No. 47) An Act respecting the Municipality of Grand Forks.

(No. 51) An Act to amend the “Columbia and Western Railway Subsidy Act, 1896.”

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

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

“In Her Majesty’s name, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor doth assent to these Bills.”

Bill (No. 46) intituled “The Truck Act” was committed, with Mr. *Huff* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

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

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

Wednesday, 20th April, 1898.

TWO O’CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *P. Jenns*.

On the motion of Mr. *Sword*, Bill (No. 55) intituled “An Act to Incorporate Industrial Communities” was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

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

That an Order of this House be granted for a Return showing the number of voters on the lists of the various electoral districts, and the number of applications to be placed on any of said lists to date.

Mr. *Higgins* presented a Report from the Select Committee appointed to inspect the Provincial Gaol and Reformatory, as follows:—

“LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,

“VICTORIA, B. C., 15th April, 1898.

“MR. SPEAKER:—Your Special Committee of Inspection on Provincial Gaol and Reformatory met at the Gaol this day. Present: The Honourable D. W. Higgins, Major Mutter, Messrs. Kidd and Stoddart.

"Mr. Helmcken, Q. C., being unavoidably absent, Mr. Higgins was appointed Chairman, and Major Mutter, Secretary.

"The prison buildings were duly inspected, and the cells, rooms and yards found to be clean and in good order, reflecting credit on the Warden and his officers.

"The prisoners seemed to be usefully employed, some in whitewashing the various cells and passages, one picking oakum (a cripple), two cooking. The sick are duly cared for. The food was of good quality and sufficient in quantity. A number of the prisoners were engaged planting potatoes under two Guards, and the Warden reported that eight prisoners and one Guard were employed at Government House.

"The Matron attended us to the women's cells, where are two prisoners, who seemed usefully employed, this department being clean, tidy and in good order.

"The Warden, Mr. Johns, then accompanied us to where the boys were confined under the charge of Mr. Hansen, who explained the mode of education and employment of the boys, of whom there are six. We found the building and cells clean and in good order. Lessons are given by Mr. Hansen, and by the Doctor's (the Honourable J. S. Helmcken) order four hours per day are devoted to recreation.

"The Committee, while satisfied that so far as the buildings permit the boys are comfortably lodged, are of opinion that a better result would be reached if the boys were kept in some place away from the Gaol, for although they do not come in touch with the adult prisoners, the feeling or thought of being associated with them in the public mind is bad, and might have a prejudicial effect on the future careers of the boys.

"The Committee are of opinion that if at all possible to be arranged, the boys would be much better where they could be taught farm work, including rough carpentry, &c., and not, as at present, where they have only bare or whitewashed high walls to look upon.

"They would recommend, in the meantime, that a shed be erected in the yard, where the inmates could exercise in wet weather, and that it should be fitted with bars and a few necessaries for athletic exercises.

"The prison buildings would be the better for a coat of paint, and the portico at the reformatory portion requires some repairs to the brick-work.

"The roofs of the buildings should, when practicable, be covered with slates, so as to limit the danger from fire, as it would be a difficult, if not an impossible, task to overcome any fire breaking out on the roof from the want of water.

"The Committee desire especially to bring to your notice the danger at present existing to youths who are engaged as messenger boys by the telegraphic and other companies from the temptations to which they are unduly exposed from the nature of their calling, and from the want of oversight which evidently exists during the time they are employed in their work, they being often employed delivering messages to houses where they are brought in contact with scenes which are bound to contaminate them, at an age when they are peculiarly susceptible to evil influences.

"The Committee would respectfully suggest that it should be made unlawful to employ anyone not of full age to deliver messages to such houses, especially after daylight.

"The Committee especially desire to emphasize this question of the contamination of youths who are employed as messengers, and would urge on the Government the necessity of a rigid police supervision of the messenger service, it appearing that three of the five boys now confined in the reformatory for serious offences were, until lately, in the employ of the Messenger Company in this city.

"The Committee would also respectfully bring before the Government the advisability of having the warders and guards placed in uniform.

"The Warden reported that he considered the religious instruction and services imparted in the gaol chapel had proved of considerable benefit in many cases.

"D. W. HIGGINS,  
"Chairman."

The Report was received and *Ordered* to be printed.

The Report on Bill (No. 12) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Revelstoke and Cassiar Railway Company" was considered.

Mr. *Sword* moved—To amend section 18 by striking out all of the words after "annexed," on line 30, down to and including the word "date," on line 34, and substituting:—"The Company shall complete the various sections within three years from the date of this Act



becoming law: Provided that should the first section be completed within three years from such date, the Company shall have two years longer in which to complete the other sections." Carried.

Report, as amended, adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 20) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Skeena River Railway, Colonization and Exploration Company," was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Downie Creek Railway Company," was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the South-East Kootenay Railway Company," was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented a Return showing the number of voters on the lists of the various electoral districts, and the number of applications to be placed on any of said lists to date (9th April, 1898).

Bill (No. 44) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Mineral Act'" was committed, with Mr. *Walkem* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 45) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Placer Mining Act'" was committed, with Mr. *Forster* in the Chair.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

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

THOS. R. McINNES,  
*Lieutenant-Governor.*

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits herewith a Bill intituled "An Act respecting the construction of certain Dyking Works," and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*20th April, 1898.*

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

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

*Resolved,* That the Committee rise and report to the House, recommending the introduction of Bill (No. 54) intituled "An Act respecting the construction of certain Dyking Works."

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

Report adopted.

Bill introduced and read a second time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

Bill (No. 53) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Dairy Associations Act'" was read a second time and committed, with Mr. *Rogers* in the Chair.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 41) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Tramway Company Incorporation Act'" was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

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

Mr. *Semlin* moved—"That Bill (No. 50) intituled 'An Act to amend the Legal Professions Act' be read a second time now."

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:58 o'clock, P. M., on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

<i>Vedder,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Walkem,</i>	<i>Rogers,</i>
<i>Huff,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Hunter,</i>
<i>Smith,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>Braden,</i>
<i>Mutter,</i>	<i>Adams,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>	<i>McGregor—18.</i>
<i>Helmcken,</i>	<i>Stoddart,</i>		

NAYS :

Messieurs

<i>Sword,</i>	<i>Forster.</i>	<i>Williams,</i>	<i>Graham,</i>
<i>Kennedy,</i>	<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Kellie,</i>
<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Cotton,</i>	<i>Higgins—12.</i>

Thursday, 21st April, 1898.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *P. Jenns*.

On the motion of Mr. *Semlin*, Bill (No. 56) intituled "An Act to amend the Law respecting the Marking of Cattle," was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time on Monday next.

Bill (No. 41) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Tramway Company Incorporation Act'" was read a third time and passed.

Mr. *Semlin* moved the adjournment of the House, for the purpose of considering a matter of urgent public importance, viz. : "The needs of the Province in regard to railway communication with the *Yukon*, and the necessity of the Dominion Government at once making provision for having a railway built from *Glenora* to *Testin Lake*."

After some debate, the motion was withdrawn, with leave.

Bill (No. 38) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Fire Escape Act, 1894,'" was again committed.

The Committee rose without report.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act relating to the employment of Chinese or Japanese persons on Works carried on under Franchises granted by Private Acts," was resumed.

Bill read a second time on the following division :—

YEAS :

Messieurs

<i>Sword,</i>	<i>Vedder,</i>	<i>Smith,</i>	<i>Higgins,</i>
<i>Kennedy,</i>	<i>Huff,</i>	<i>Kellie,</i>	<i>Stoddart,</i>
<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Williams,</i>	<i>Mutter,</i>	<i>Pooley,</i>
<i>Forster,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Helmcken,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>
<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Cotton,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Rogers,</i>
<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Graham,</i>	<i>Adams,</i>	<i>Braden—24.</i>

NAYS :

Messieurs

*Baker,*                      *Martin—2.*

To be committed to-morrow.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of Bill (No. 50) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Legal Professions Act'" was resumed

Bill read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Mr. *Helmcken* moved—"That Bill (No. 52) intituled 'An Act for amending the Provincial Elections Act, by extending to Women the Franchise of Voting,' be read a second time now."

A debate arose.

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

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

Debate resumed.

The motion was negatived on the following division :—

YEAS :

Messieurs

<i>Kennedy,</i>	<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Helmcken,</i>
<i>Forster,</i>	<i>Vedder,</i>	<i>Kellie,</i>	<i>Baker—10.</i>
<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Huff,</i>		

NAYS :

Messieurs

<i>Sword,</i>	<i>Smith,</i>	<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>
<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Mutter,</i>	<i>Stoddart,</i>	<i>Rogers,</i>
<i>Williams,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Walkem,</i>	<i>Hunter,</i>
<i>Cotton,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Braden—18.</i>
<i>Graham,</i>	<i>Adams,</i>		

With the leave of the House, Mr. *Sword* moved, seconded by Mr. *Vedder*, and it was Resolved,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all reports of the Inspector of Dykes on the works that it is in contemplation to undertake.

Bill (No. 55) intituled "An Act to Incorporate Industrial Communities" was read a second time.

To be committed on Monday next.

Bill (No. 53) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Dairy Associations Act'" was read a third time and passed.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed :—

Bill (No. 12) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Revelstoke and Cassiar Railway Company.”

Bill (No. 20) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Skeena River Railway, Colonization and Exploration Company.”

The Report on Bill (No. 4) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Mountain Tramway and Electric Company,” was considered.

Mr. *Macpherson* moved to strike out in section 27, line 44, the words “the undertaking thereby,” and insert “any undertaking hereby.”

Carried.

Mr. *Helmcken* moved to strike out sub-section (a) of section 15, and insert the following in lieu thereof:—

“(a.) Before the said Company shall exercise any of the powers aforesaid in respect of any proposed tramway (except in connection with expropriation proceedings, as to which all necessary notices and proceedings may run and be taken concurrently with the notice next hereinafter mentioned), it shall give notice as provided by section 4 of the ‘Tramway Company Incorporation Act,’ stating the points between which it is proposed to build such tramway, telegraph or telephone line, and the general route of the same.”

Carried.

Mr. *Helmcken* moved that section 15 be amended by adding the words “or near” between the words “in” and “the,” in the 8th line, page 4.

Carried.

Report, as amended, adopted.

To be read a third time to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 13) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Skeena River and Eastern Railway Company,” was adopted.

To be read a third time to-morrow.

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

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

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

And then the House adjourned at 11:30 o'clock, P. M.

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Friday, 22nd April, 1898.

Two o'clock, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *P. Jenms*.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Eberts*, Bill (No. 57) intituled “An Act to define the boundaries of the Corporation of the District of North Cowichan,” was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time on Monday next.

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

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, asking His Honour to cause to be sent down to this House copies of all correspondence between his

Government, or any member thereof, and *McKenzie & Mann*, or any other person, in relation to railway communication with the *Yukon*. Also, any correspondence with the Dominion Government upon the same subject.

Mr. *Sword* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,—

To add to the Resolution the words “previous to the defeat in the Senate of the Bill to confirm the conditional contract between the Dominion Government and Messrs. *McKenzie & Mann*.”

The amendment was negatived on the following division :—

## YEAS

## Messieurs

<i>Sword,</i>	<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Williams,</i>	<i>Graham,</i>
<i>Kennedy,</i>	<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Kellie,</i>
<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Vedder,</i>	<i>Cotton,</i>	<i>Higgins—13.</i>
<i>Forster,</i>			

## NAYS :

## Messieurs

<i>Huff,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Walkem,</i>	<i>Rogers,</i>
<i>Smith,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Hunter,</i>
<i>Helmcken,</i>	<i>Adams,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>Braden,</i>
<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Stoddart,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>	<i>McGregor—16.</i>

Original motion negatived on the same division.

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

(a.) At what date did the *Kaslo and Slocan Railway Company* acquire the right to Lot 873, Group I, *Kootenay District*, under the provisions of their Subsidy Acts, 1892 and 1894?

(b.) Has any Crown grant been prepared or issued to said company for said lot, under the provisions of section 4 of their Subsidy Act, 1892?

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

“(a.) 24th July, 1896; the date when a plan was filed at the Lands and Works Department showing the location of the selection.

“(b.) A Crown grant has been issued to the company, under authority of section 5 (not section 4) of the ‘*Kaslo and Slocan Railway Subsidy Act, 1892.*’”

The Hon. Mr. *Eberts* moved—“That Bill (No. 48) intituled ‘An Act for the Redistribution of British Columbia into Electoral Districts, and to amend the Provincial Elections Act,’ be read a second time now.”

Mr. *Semlin* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,—

To strike out all after the word “That” and insert the following :—

“whereas an equitable system of representation is the foundation of civil and political liberty; and

“Whereas the present Bill sets at defiance every principle of equity in representation; therefore,

“Be it Resolved, That Bill (No. 48) intituled ‘An Act for the Redistribution of British Columbia into Electoral Districts, and to amend the Provincial Elections Act,’ be withdrawn, and a Bill doing justice to all parts of the Province be substituted therefor.”

The amendment was negatived on the following division :—

## YEAS :

## Messieurs

<i>Sword,</i>	<i>Forster,</i>	<i>Vedder,</i>	<i>Cotton,</i>
<i>Kennedy,</i>	<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Williams,</i>	<i>Graham,</i>
<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Kellie—12.</i>

NAYS :

Messieurs

<i>Huff,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Stoddart,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>
<i>Smith,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Walkem,</i>	<i>Rogers,</i>
<i>Mutter,</i>	<i>Adams,</i>	<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Braden,</i>
<i>Helmcken,</i>	<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>McGregor—17.</i>
<i>Baker,</i>			

Debate on the main question continued.

The House continued to sit after midnight.

SATURDAY, 23rd April.

Bill read a second time.

To be committed on Monday next.

*Resolved,* That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2:30 o'clock, P. M., on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 12:20 o'clock, A. M.

Monday, 25th April, 1898.

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

Mr. *McGregor* presented a Petition from *Thos. Kitchin* and others, *re* railway from *Glenora* to *Teslin Lake*.

Mr. *Semlin* objected to the Petition being received, as leading up to the expenditure of public money.

Mr. Speaker *Booth* :—Neither *May* nor our Rules and Orders place any restriction on the right to petition the House on any subject that is not in violation of the Rules of the House and Practice of Parliament.

It is, therefore, for me to consider in what way (if at all) this Petition violates the Rules of the House, &c.

The Petition states in effect the desirability of prompt steps being taken with reasonable diligence to provide for the commencement of a line of railway from *Glenora* to *Teslin Lake*, and concludes with the following prayer :—"Your petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that the above-mentioned matters may receive your early consideration, and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray."

The Petition has been skillfully drawn to meet the very objection that is taken to it.

No public aid is directly or indirectly asked for, the prayer being limited to a request to the House to give early consideration to the matter referred to.

I am of opinion that the Petition is more properly classed as one in respect of a general measure of public policy, and does not require the recommendation of the Crown to enable the same to be presented and received. *See May*, 10th ed., 495, 531. *See, also*, Speakers' Decisions, 131, where a resolution was passed to consider the advisability of offering a reward for the discovery of a new gold-field, but when the Committee of the Whole went further and reported recommending that the Lieutenant-Governor in Council should offer a reward of \$5,000, the report was promptly ruled out of order.

The Petition was received and *Ordered* to be printed.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Eberts*, Bill (No. 58) intituled "An Act to amend the 'British Columbia Railway Act,'" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Eberts*, Bill (No. 59) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Small Debts Act,'" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

On the motion of Mr. *Graham*, Bill (No. 60) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Medical Act,'" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

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

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor praying him to cause to be sent down to this House copies of all Orders in Council, and all correspondence, agreements and papers relating in any way to the land grant under the "Cassiar Central Railway Aid Act, 1897."

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor praying him to cause to be sent down to this House a Return showing:—

- (a.) The number of Chinamen who are tenants of the Crown.
- (b.) Particulars of property occupied, together with the area thereof, and nature of tenure.
- (c.) Amount of rent and when paid.

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

Upon whose recommendation was *T. S. Gore* paid the sum of \$600 for drawing a map of *Vancouver* and adjacent islands and mainland?

For what purpose is the map required?

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

"Upon the recommendation of the Surveyor-General.

"To replace an old, worn out, incorrect and obsolete map, for a connected record of surveys, and for the information of the Department and the public."

Mr. *Macpherson* asked the Hon. the Leader of the Government the following questions:—

1. Has the Government received any applications from the *Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern Railway Company*, or anyone on its behalf, for any part of the \$4,000 per mile subsidy provided for in the "Public Works Act, 1897"?

2. What guarantees has this company, or anyone on its behalf, offered to secure the reserving of this subsidy for it?

3. Upon what conditions has it, or anyone on its behalf, offered to construct the line?

4. Do the Government consider their conditions and guarantees reasonable?

5. Will they name this company as the company to receive this subsidy?

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

"Whilst the above matter is under negotiation, it is not in the public interest to answer the questions."

Mr. *Kellie* asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance if he has considered the question of the reduction of lead and copper ores in British Columbia, and what aid he is willing to give?

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

"I object to answer this question, on the grounds of public policy."

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

Is it the intention of the Government to bring down a measure, during the present Session, providing for the taking of a plebiscite on the occasion of the approaching general elections, to ascertain the sentiment, "aye" or "no," of the electors on the proposition to confer the franchise on women?

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

"The question has not been considered."

The Report on Bill (No. 45) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Placer Mining Act,'" was considered.

Mr. *Braden* moved to insert the following as a new section:—

"Every person over, but not under, eighteen years of age, and every joint stock company, shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of a free miner, and shall be considered a free miner, upon taking out a free miner's certificate: Provided, however, that no alien shall be permitted to record a mineral claim unless he has previously, and in accordance with the provisions of the Act regulating the same, declared his intention to become a British subject; and no Crown grant shall be issued upon any mineral claim recorded after the passage of this Act to any person other than a British subject. A minor who shall become a free miner shall, as regards his mining property and liabilities contracted in connection therewith, be treated as of full age. A free miner's certificate issued to a joint stock company shall be issued in its corporate name. A free miner's certificate shall not be transferable."

Mr. Speaker *Booth* ruled the motion out of order, as interfering with the administration of Crown lands, taxation and revenue. See decision on same question on 19th April, instant.

Mr. *Forster* appealed from the decision of the Chair.

The Chair was sustained on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>
<i>Huff,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Walkem,</i>	<i>Rogers,</i>
<i>Smith,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Hunter,</i>
<i>Mutter,</i>	<i>Adams,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>McGregor—16.</i>

NAYS :

Messieurs

<i>Sword,</i>	<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Williams,</i>	<i>Graham,</i>
<i>Kennedy,</i>	<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Kellie,</i>
<i>Forster,</i>	<i>Vedder,</i>	<i>Cotton,</i>	<i>Braden—12.</i>

Report adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 44) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Mineral Act'" was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 48) intituled "An Act for the Redistribution of British Columbia into Electoral Districts, and to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act,'" was committed, with Mr. *McGregor* in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again this evening.

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

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

House again in Committee on Bill (No. 48) intituled "An Act for the Redistribution of British Columbia into Electoral Districts, and to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act.'" Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

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

And then the House adjourned at 12:05 o'clock, A. M.



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Tuesday, 26th April, 1898.

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TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *P. Jenns*.

Mr. *Vedder* presented a Petition from *Sidney Ford* and others, residents and landowners of *Lower Sumas*, opposing further public aid to dyking scheme.

Received and *Ordered* to be printed.

Mr. *McGregor* presented Petitions from *John Hilbert* and others, *A. Haslam* and others, and *R. E. McKechnie*, all of *Nanaimo*, *re* railway from *Glenora* to *Teslin Lake*.

Received and *Ordered* to be printed.

The House proceeded to the Orders of the Day.

Bill (No. 48) intituled "An Act for the Redistribution of British Columbia into Electoral Districts, and to amend the Provincial Elections Act," was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again this evening.

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

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

House again in Committee on Bill No. 48.

The House continued to sit after midnight.

WEDNESDAY, 27TH APRIL.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

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

Mr. *Huff* was nominated as a member of the Log-Scaling Committee.

The following Petitions were presented and received:—

By Mr. *McGregor*, from *H. Carroll* and others, of *Nanaimo*, *re* railway from *Glenora* to *Teslin Lake*.

By Mr. *Helmcken*, from *S. J. Pitts* and other, of *Victoria*, *re* railway from *Glenora* to *Teslin Lake*.

By Mr. *Helmcken*, from *W. Gravley* and others, of *Vancouver*, *re* railway from *Glenora* to *Teslin Lake*.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
27th April, 1898.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

That your Committee have considered Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the British Columbia Great Gold Gravels Dredge Mining Corporation," and find the preamble proved, and submit the same herewith with amendments.

JOSEPH HUNTER,  
*Chairman*.

The Report was received.

And then the House adjourned at 3:15 o'clock, P. M.

Thursday, 28th April, 1898.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. P. Jenns.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Eberts*, Bill (No. 62) intituled "An Act to further amend the 'Quesnelle Lake Dam Company Act'" was introduced and read a first time.  
To be read a second time to-morrow.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for the following Returns, viz. :—

1. Total amount due the Government on account of land sales.
2. Total amount due the Government on account of lands pre-empted.
3. Amount of municipal indebtedness guaranteed by the Provincial Government.
4. Amount of railway indebtedness guaranteed by the Provincial Government.
5. Number of acres of land set apart for subsidizing railways within the Province.

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

What services did *D. R. Harris* render the Provincial Government in connection with the *Songhees Indians* for the sum of \$250 paid to him as per Public Accounts Report for the year ending June 30th, 1897?

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

"Mr. *Harris* was appointed a Commissioner by Order in Council on the 10th of April, 1896, to represent the Government of British Columbia in the settlement of the *Songhees Reserve matters*, in accordance with the understanding previously arrived at with the Dominion Government, Hon. Peter O'Reilly being the Commissioner appointed by the latter. Mr. *Harris*' duties were of an important nature. He was for some time engaged in preparing the case for the Government, and in making the preliminary arrangements necessary for removal."

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

What has been the result of the Government's *consideration* of a measure for the better care of explosives, as per the answer to my question of February 22nd, last year?

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

"It is not the intention of the Government, this Session, to introduce any further legislation with reference to the care of explosives."

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

1. What is the total amount of taxed costs allowed to the Province in the several suits *re precious metals* in Island Railway Lands?
2. What is the amount allowed for Government Solicitor's fees, and to whom paid?
3. What is the amount allowed for Government Counsel's fees, and to whom paid?
4. Has the full amount allowed been paid by the *Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company*?

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

"1. Total amount of taxed costs in the Bainbridge precious metals case, allowed to the Province, was £254 8s. 8d. = \$1,234.

"2. \$652.08 paid to H. E. A. Robertson and to Gard, Hall & Rook.

"3. \$1,159.89 paid Gard, Hall & Rook for fees of senior counsel, John Charles Bigham, and junior counsel, C. A. Russell.

"4. Yes."

On the motion of Mr. *Higgins*, seconded by Mr. *Kellie*, it was *Resolved*,—  
That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of the total cost to the Government of—

- (1) The *Bella Coola*,
- (2) The *Cape Scott*, and
- (3) The *Quatsino*

Scandinavian settlements. Return to state the amount of financial assistance given to, and the (approximate) population of each settlement.

Order for the third reading of Bill (No. 30) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Master and Servant Act'" called.

Mr. *Macpherson* moved—That the Order for the third reading be discharged and the Bill re-committed, to consider the following amendments:—

To strike out the word "Canada," in the third, sixth and eleventh lines of section 2, and insert in lieu thereof "British Columbia."

The motion was negatived on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

*Sword*,  
*Kennedy*,  
*Hume*,

*Forster*,  
*Macpherson*,  
*Kidd*,

*Vedder*,  
*Semlin*,  
*Cotton*,

*Graham*,  
*Kellie*,  
*Helmecken*—12.

NAYS :

Messieurs

*Huff*,  
*Williams*,  
*Smith*,  
*Mutter*,

*Baker*,  
*Turner*,  
*Adams*,  
*Higgins*,

*Stoddart*,  
*Eberts*,  
*Bryden*,

*Rogers*,  
*Hunter*,  
*McGregor*—14.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Mr. *Semlin* rose to a question of privilege and moved, seconded by Mr. *Williams*,—

That it be entered in the Journals of the House that on 27th April the correctness of the ruling of the Chairman (*pro tem.*) of the Committee of the Whole on the Redistribution Bill having been appealed to the House, the opposition held that the Chairman, in his report to the House, misrepresented the question, and as Mr. Speaker refused to consider anything but the Chairman's report, and did not give those objecting the opportunity of shewing that such report was not correct, and as the House, by allowing the motion to be put and voting that the "Chair be sustained," approved of the action of Mr. Speaker, and thereby made itself a party to his refusal to hear the complaint of those objecting to the Chairman's report, the following members withdrew from the House:—Messrs. *Semlin*, *Williams*, *Cotton*, *Graham*, *Sword*, *Kennedy*, *Hume*, *Macpherson*, *Kidd*, and *Vedder*, and refused to take their places on the resumption of the Committee, as they considered that the temporary Chairman of the Committee had taken advantage of his position to put the question contrary to the Rules of the House, and that their privileges as members had been disregarded, without their having been able to obtain redress.

Mr. Speaker *Booth*: I think the motion exceeds the limits of matters of privilege, and refers to proceedings which took place in the Committee of the Whole which were not reported to the House, and of which the House cannot take cognizance. I rule the motion out of order.

The Hon. Colonel *Baker* presented papers relating to the protest of the Provincial Government against the issue of a lease by the Department of Indian Affairs to one *T. D. Jones*, of the coal measures under the Indian Reserve at *Nanaimo*.

Bill (No. 46) intituled "The Truck Act" was again committed.  
Reported complete with amendments.  
Report to be considered to-morrow.

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

THOS. R. McINNES,  
*Lieutenant-Governor.*

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits herewith a Bill intituled "An Act to confirm an Agreement between Her Majesty, in right of Her Province of British Columbia, and Frank Owen and William John Stokes, and to Incorporate the Cariboo-Omineca Chartered Company," and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,*  
*26th April, 1898.*

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

On the motion of Mr. *Helmcken*, Bill (No. 63) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Act'" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* presented a Return showing in full Mr. *Tytler's* reports on "Dyking Scheme for Flooded Lands, Fraser River," and "Protection Works, Surrey."

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

1. Has the Government received a copy of the decision of the Judge of the Revisional Court of Assessment for *Esquimalt District* of the 3rd and 5th days of January last, with respect to the imposition of the wild land tax on 262 acres (being Sections 7, 56, 36 and 37, *Esquimalt District*) belonging to a resident owner?

2. Has the Government upheld that decision? and

3. Is it a fact that an appeal to the Full Court has been entered against that decision, which appeal has not been heard because of the non-attendance of counsel representing the Attorney-General's Department before the Court?

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

"1. The facts are inaccurately recited in the question, but I presume reference is made to the property of one Mr. McCallum. I am informed that the record book of the Court of Revision is in the custody of the Assessor, and that it contains the original decision, which the Government may, therefore, be said to have received.

"2. The meaning of the question is not sufficiently clear. The departmental officers of the Government have intimated to the appellant that in case he carried the appeal to a higher Court, the Government would oppose the appeal.

"3. No appeal to the Full Court has, so far as I am aware, been entered, or formal notice thereof given, neither have any appeal books been filed or the appeal set down. The reason for the appeal not having been heard is, therefore, not as suggested."

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

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