

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

SESSION 1900.

Thursday, 4th January, 1900.

THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

This being the first day of the second meeting of the Eighth Parliament or Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of His Honour the Honourable THOS. R. McINNES, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the fifteenth day of September, 1899.

His Honour the Honourable *Thos. R. McInnes*, 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:

Since the last occasion on which I had the pleasure of meeting you, events of momentous importance to the British Empire have occurred. The declaration of war against Great Britain by the Governments of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State has involved the Empire in a fierce struggle for supremacy in South Africa. This event has evoked from every part of the Empire such expressions of Imperial unity, of loyalty to the Crown and the Constitution, and such a recognition of the responsibilities and duties that a share in the glory and advantages of the Imperial connection involve, as must kindle the patriotism of every citizen of the Empire. Canada was among the first of the great self-governing dependencies of the Empire to offer material aid to the Imperial Government in its efforts to secure for both races in the Transvaal those equal rights of citizenship to which they were entitled by solemn treaty obligations. In the spontaneity of this offer from Canada, the Federal and Provincial Governments and the people of the Dominion were as one. Racial differences, party distinctions, have been obliterated in the great wave of popular enthusiasm to share in the burdens of empire and to aid the Mother Country in a righteous cause, and in the Canadian contingent now in South Africa are to be found representatives of the stalwart manhood of Canada from every Province of the Dominion. That the number of the volunteers from this Province far exceeded that which the Imperial official arrangements made it possible to accept, must be a source of pride and satisfaction to every patriotic citizen of British Columbia.

Whilst watching the course of events on the field of war with the intensest interest and solicitude, we can but pray that our arms may be victorious, that peace may speedily be concluded, and British supremacy in South Africa be established on a firm and just basis.

I am pleased to be able to inform you that the special legislation to provide a method for the adjustment of disputes which had arisen over the ownership of mineral claims in the Atlin District has achieved the purpose for which it was designed. This has been due in no small degree to the able and impartial manner in which the learned Commissioner, appointed under the provisions of the Act, performed the duties imposed on him. There is every prospect that the Atlin District will be one of the most prosperous mining camps in British Columbia during the coming season.

The rapid growth in the population, and the consequent requirement of a large increase in the school accommodation, make it imperative that the whole educational system should be revised. At the same time, there is a general desire among the people of many of the towns which have recently become incorporated for a larger share in the control of their schools. A measure, therefore, will be laid before you which, it is thought, will accomplish this end, and at the same time secure a maintenance of the excellence and efficiency of our educational system.

The renewed activity which is becoming apparent in the lumbering industry, and the greater demand likely to arise for the products of our forests, make it desirable that such amendments should be made in the Act for the measurement of logs as will make its operation satisfactory both to the millowners and loggers, and a Bill with that object will be introduced.

Notwithstanding the substantial remissions of taxation made last year, the general revenue is well maintained.

The loan authorised at the last session for the purpose of providing funds for the discharge of the large deficit which had accumulated, was successfully negotiated in London in July last. At that time it was only found necessary to issue \$1,649,000 out of the \$2,800,000 authorised by the Act. The price realised for the stock was higher than that obtained for any previous issue.

The Columbia and Western Railway Company, having completed its line between Rossland and Boundary Creek, has become entitled to a land grant of, approximately, 2,500,000 acres. Preliminary arrangements have been made between my Government and the railway company for the substitution of a cash subsidy for the land grant, on such terms as will result in a substantial saving to the Provincial Treasury, as compared with the plan adopted in regard to the payment of similar subsidies in the past. By the carrying out of this arrangement, it will be possible to throw open for settlement in the Boundary Creek district an area of about 4,000,000 acres now reserved. This would have a most beneficial effect on the development of the district, and will be a source of much satisfaction to the people of that locality.

The great increase in the population of the Boundary Creek district, and the rapid development of its mining and other industries, entitle it to have a representative in the Legislature. An amendment to the "Constitution Act" will, therefore, be introduced to effect this object.

Some amendments will be proposed to the "Coal Mines Regulation Act," in order to make the law more easy in application.

Amendments will be introduced to the "Liquor Licence Act," with a view to rendering its operation more effective, and lessening the cost to licensees of complying with the regulations, especially in the rural districts.

As it is now known that in the Omineca District there are large areas of valuable mineral territory, and at present that region is almost inaccessible, while it is quite impossible to transport thither the heavy machinery necessary for the development of the mineral resources, you will, therefore, be asked to authorise expenditure necessary to make this portion of the Province accessible.

My Government has given much consideration to the opening up of the northern portion of the Province, especially in connection with a route from the coast entirely within British territory. During the past season a trail has been cut from the coast along the Kitimaat Valley, and prospectors and others have already taken advantage of that route. It is now proposed to build a waggon road in the same direction, with a view to the ultimate construction of a railway, as the commencement of a railway system to be extended over the northern portion of the Province. In such a scheme it will be both feasible and desirable, in the public interest, that such arrangements shall be made as will secure to the Province an interest in such enterprises and an effective control over the details of their operation.

The Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the ensuing fiscal year will shortly be laid before you, and will be found to have been framed with a view to economy whilst providing liberally for the Public Service.

I now leave you to your deliberations, trusting that under the guidance of the Almighty the result of your labours will conduce to the prosperity and welfare of the people of the Province.

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

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

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

The following election return was read :—

"PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
"VICTORIA, August 30th, 1899.

"Whereas a vacancy occurred in the Legislative Assembly by the acceptance of office by the Honourable *Alexander Henderson*, a Member for the *New Westminster City Electoral District* ;

"And whereas on the tenth day of August, 1899, a writ for the election of a Member to represent such district was duly issued to *Henry J. A. Burnett*, Esquire, the Returning Officer of the said district :

"Now, I do hereby certify that on the twenty-fifth day of August, 1899, the said writ was returned to me by the said Returning Officer, with his certificate attached thereto, whereby it appears that the Honourable *Alexander Henderson* has been, under and by virtue of the said writ, elected a Member to represent the said *New Westminster City Electoral District* in the Legislative Assembly.

"A. CAMPBELL REDDIE,
"Deputy Provincial Secretary.

"*The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.*"

The Hon. *Alexander Henderson*, being duly sworn, was introduced by Hon. Mr. *Semlin* and Hon. Mr. *Hume*, and took his place.

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

THOS. R. McINNES,
Lieutenant-Governor.

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits, for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly, the following proposal, namely :—

That the Province of British Columbia offer to furnish a company of mounted men, with transportation to Halifax or other port of embarkation, for service with the Canadian Contingent in the Transvaal.

Government House,
4th January, 1900.

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended in order to consider this Message forthwith.

The Hon. Mr. *Semlin* moved, seconded by Mr. *Turner*,—

Resolved, That in accordance with His Honour's Message, the Province of British Columbia offer to furnish a company of mounted men, with transportation to Halifax or other port of embarkation, for service with the Canadian Contingent in the Transvaal.

Mr. *Helmcken* moved the Previous Question, which was carried.

Motion put and carried.

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.

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.

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.

The Hon. Mr. *Cotton* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Public Accounts for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1899.

The Hon. Mr. *Semlin* moved, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Henderson*,—

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

Negatived.

The Hon. Mr. *Semlin* moved, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Cotton*,—

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

Negatived.

Mr. *Turner* moved, seconded by Colonel *Baker*,—

That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2 o'clock on Tuesday next.

A point of order having arisen on the relevancy of the debate, and the Speaker having decided same to be in order, Mr. *Higgins* appealed from the Chair.

The Chair was not sustained on the following division :—

YEAS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Semlin,</i> | <i>Tisdall,</i> | <i>Kellie,</i> | <i>Munro,</i> |
| <i>Cotton,</i> | <i>Deane,</i> | <i>Kidd,</i> | <i>Green,</i> |
| <i>Macpherson,</i> | <i>Hume,</i> | <i>Kinchant,</i> | <i>Neill,</i> |
| <i>Smith, R.,</i> | <i>McKechnie,</i> | <i>Helgesen,</i> | <i>Henderson—17.</i> |
| <i>Martin, J. M.,</i> | | | |

NAYS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Pooley,</i> | <i>Ellison,</i> | <i>Turner,</i> | <i>Helmcken,</i> |
| <i>Booth,</i> | <i>Clifford,</i> | <i>Eberts,</i> | <i>McPhillips,</i> |
| <i>Dunsmuir,</i> | <i>McBride,</i> | <i>Smith, A. W.,</i> | <i>Irving,</i> |
| <i>Hall,</i> | <i>Martin, Jos.,</i> | <i>Bryden,</i> | <i>Higgins—18.</i> |
| <i>Robertson,</i> | <i>Baker,</i> | | |

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

EIGHT O'CLOCK, P. M.

Debate resumed.

The Hon. Mr. *McKechnie* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Kidd*,—

That all the words after "till" be struck out, and that the words "three o'clock on Monday next" be inserted in lieu thereof.

Objection being taken to the motion that it was the same question upon which the House had passed an opinion this day,

Mr. Speaker ruled the motion in order.

Mr. Higgins appealed from the Chair.

The Chair was sustained on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <i>Semlin,</i> | <i>Smith, R.,</i> | <i>Cotton,</i> | <i>Helgesen,</i> |
| <i>Henderson,</i> | <i>Martin, J. M.,</i> | <i>Kellie,</i> | <i>Munro,</i> |
| <i>McKechnie,</i> | <i>Tisdall,</i> | <i>Kidd,</i> | <i>Green,</i> |
| <i>Wells,</i> | <i>Deane,</i> | <i>Kinchant,</i> | <i>Neill—18.</i> |
| <i>Macpherson,</i> | <i>Hume,</i> | | |

NAYS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Pooley,</i> | <i>Ellison,</i> | <i>Turner,</i> | <i>Helmcken,</i> |
| <i>Booth,</i> | <i>Clifford,</i> | <i>Eberts,</i> | <i>McPhillips,</i> |
| <i>Dunsmuir,</i> | <i>McBride,</i> | <i>Smith, A. W.,</i> | <i>Irving,</i> |
| <i>Hall,</i> | <i>Martin, Jos.,</i> | <i>Bryden,</i> | <i>Higgins—18.</i> |
| <i>Robertson,</i> | <i>Baker,</i> | | |

Mr. Speaker voted with the ayes.

Amendment to the motion, and motion as amended, carried on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <i>Semlin,</i> | <i>Smith, R.,</i> | <i>Cotton,</i> | <i>Helgesen,</i> |
| <i>Henderson,</i> | <i>Martin, J. M.,</i> | <i>Kellie,</i> | <i>Munro,</i> |
| <i>McKechnie,</i> | <i>Tisdall,</i> | <i>Kidd,</i> | <i>Green,</i> |
| <i>Wells,</i> | <i>Deane,</i> | <i>Kinchant,</i> | <i>Neill—18.</i> |
| <i>Macpherson,</i> | <i>Hume,</i> | | |

NAYS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Pooley,</i> | <i>Ellison,</i> | <i>Turner,</i> | <i>Helmcken,</i> |
| <i>Booth,</i> | <i>Clifford,</i> | <i>Eberts,</i> | <i>McPhillips,</i> |
| <i>Dunsmuir,</i> | <i>McBride,</i> | <i>Smith, A. W.,</i> | <i>Irving,</i> |
| <i>Hall,</i> | <i>Martin, Jos.,</i> | <i>Bryden,</i> | <i>Higgins—18.</i> |
| <i>Robertson,</i> | <i>Baker,</i> | | |

Mr. Speaker voted with the ayes.

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

That the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor be taken into consideration on Tuesday next.

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

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Ordered to be read a first time on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 10:10 o'clock, P. M.

Monday, 8th January, 1900.

THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

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

By Colonel *Baker*, from *Robert Jaffray* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Crow's Nest Pass Electric Light and Power Company."

By Mr. *Wells*, from *H. E. Forster* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate the "East Kootenay Telephone Company."

By Mr. *Green*, from *H. H. Pitts* and others, ratepayers of *Sandon*, re amendments to the "Municipal Clauses Act."

By Mr. *Tisdall*, from the Corporation of the *City of Vancouver*, for a Private Bill re amendments to their charter.

By Mr. *Green*, from *H. B. Robertson* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Taku and Atlin Railway and Navigation Company."

By Mr. *Helmcken*, from "The Vancouver and Lulu Island Railway Company," for a Private Bill to amend their original charter.

By Mr. *Helmcken*, from *Richard Marpole* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Vancouver and Westminster Railway Company."

By Mr. *Kellie*, from *J. D. Molson* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The North Kootenay Water Power and Light Company."

By Mr. *Kellie*, from *J. T. Bethune* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Chilcat Pass Railway and Navigation Company."

On the motion of Mr. *Helmcken*, Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Trustees and Executors' Act,'" was introduced and read a first time.

Second reading to-morrow.

On the motion of Mr. *Higgins*, seconded by Mr. *A. W. Smith*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a detailed Return of all moneys paid, and to whom paid, on account of stationery for use in the Public Departments of the Province from the 1st of July, 1898, to the 31st December, 1899, together with copies of all agreements or contracts with any person or persons whatsoever for the supply of stationery, and the rates at which that class of goods was supplied to the Government.

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

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, asking His Honour to cause to be laid before this House copies of all correspondence between the Provincial Government, or any member thereof, and the Imperial and Dominion Governments, or any member thereof, relative to the proffered Provincial grant of one million dollars towards the cost of laying a trans-Pacific cable.

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

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, asking His Honour to cause to be laid before this House copies of all correspondence between the Government of British Columbia, or any member thereof, and the Government of the Dominion of Canada, or any member thereof; also, all correspondence between the Government of British Columbia and any person or persons, miners' or mine-owners' unions, relating to the enforcement of the provisions of section 4 of an Act intituled "Inspection of Metalliferous Mines Amendment Act, 1899."

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, asking him to cause to be laid before this House all correspondence, memorials and documents between the Dominion Government and the Provincial Government, relative to the disallowance by the Dominion Government of the "Labour Regulation Act, 1898," or legislation of a similar character since the Return presented to this House on the 18th January, 1899.

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, asking him to cause to be laid before this House copies of all correspondence, memorials and papers between the County Court Judges of this Province and the Provincial Government, or any member thereof, and between the Dominion Government, or any member thereof, and the Provincial Government, or any member thereof, relative to the discontinuance of the salary as Stipendiary Magistrates heretofore paid by the Province to each of the said County Court Judges.

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

1. When was the salary heretofore paid by the Provincial Government to the County Court Judges discontinued?
2. Has any agreement been reached relative to the payment of the salaries since such discontinuance?

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

- "1. 30th November, 1898.
- "2. No."

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

1. Has any reply been received from the Dominion Government relative to the Resolution passed by this Honourable House on the 25th February last, having reference to the removal of the Indians from the *Songhees Reserve*?
2. If any, what is the nature of such reply?
3. Has the Government taken any step, and if so, what step, towards effecting the removal of the Indians from such Reserve?
4. Was any notice, and if so, what, given to the Provincial Government by any person or party relative to the arbitration of the portion of land required for right of way purposes by the E. & N. Railway Co.?

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

"1 & 2. Yes; and the purport of such reply will be found in a Minute dated the 9th of August, a copy of which is presented herewith:—

"1303k.

"*Extract from a Report of the Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency on the 9th August, 1899.*

"The Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration a despatch, hereto attached, dated 13th March, 1899, from the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, transmitting an approved Minute of his Executive Council, which embodies a resolution passed at the recent Session of the Legislature of that Province, representing the desirability of early consideration being given to the removal of the Indians from the *Songhees Reserve*.

"The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs, to whom the matter was referred, states that on the 13th July, 1898, there was transmitted to the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia a copy of an approved Minute of the Privy Council embodying the views of Your Excellency's Government in regard to the proposed removal of the Indians. That Minute summarized the negotiations between the Provincial Government and Mr. J. A. J. McKenna, who was commissioned by Order in Council of the 15th July, 1897, to confer with the Provincial Government on the subject of the removal of the Indians, and referred to the fact that on the 16th December, 1897, the Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs advised the Premier

of British Columbia that he had concluded that the second proposal submitted by Mr. McKenna was the fairest that could be made, and provided the most effective means of removing the Indians; for, if accepted, it would admit of a speedy and satisfactory settlement of this long standing question without the Province being called upon to relinquish any right or give up any asset, while at the same time properly protecting the rights of the Indians.

"The Minister further states, that the proposal referred to is embodied in a communication addressed by Mr. McKenna to the Honourable J. H. Turner, and dated at Victoria on the 18th September, 1897. It is as follows:—

"On the Provincial Government passing an Order in Council concurring, without prejudice to the claims of either Government to Indian Reserves in the Province, in the disposal by the Dominion of the Songhees Reserve, the Dominion Government will agree to secure, within two years from the date of the said Order, the removal of the Indians and to fund for their benefit, subject to the laws of the Dominion in respect to Indian Trust Funds, the proceeds derived from the sale of the land comprised in the Songhees Reserve, less such an amount as may be expended in procuring a new location and effecting the removal and re-habilitation of the Indians, and in disposing of the land in the present Reserve."

"And in the same communication Mr. McKenna pointed out that the Provincial Government's claim to a reversionary right in the land should not stand in the way of acceptance of his proposal, as that Government would have as good a claim to a reversionary right in the capitalised proceeds of the sale of the land as it could have in the land itself.

"The Minister recommends, as he is convinced that Mr. McKenna's proposal is the fairest and most feasible that could be made, that the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia be advised, in reply to his despatch of the 13th March, 1899, that Your Excellency's Government is prepared to act upon it as soon as the Government of British Columbia signifies its acceptance of the offer.

"The Committee submit the same for Your Excellency's approval.

(Signed) "JOHN J. MCGEE,

"Clerk of the Privy Council.

"His Honour

"The Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia."

"3. No.

"4. No notice was received by this Government in respect of the arbitration of the land in question."

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

1. Why were not the Registers of Voters for the *Vancouver City Electoral District* and *Nanaimo City Electoral District* included in the notice dated 6th September, 1899, cancelling the Registers of Voters for the Electoral Districts of *Victoria City* and *New Westminster City*?

2. Why was the said notice not made applicable to the registers of said Electoral Districts of *Vancouver City* and *Nanaimo City*?

3. Why was longer notice not given of such cancellation?

4. Was the Government aware that when the said notice was so published by the Provincial Secretary, the Collector of *Victoria City Electoral District* had given notice of the revision of the Register of the said District?

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

"1. Not considered desirable.

"2. Not considered desirable.

"3. Notice given was considered sufficient.

"4. The B. C. Gazette of August 31st, 1899, first published the notice of Court of Revision, and in the following week's issue the notice of the cancellation of the *Victoria City Electoral Register of Voters* appeared."

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

Has any answer been received from the Dominion Government relative to the Resolution passed by this Honourable House on the 17th February last, having reference to the establishment of a Mint in Canada?

If so, what is the nature of such answer?

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

“The receipt of a copy of the Minute embodying the Resolution referred to was acknowledged by the Secretary of State, with an intimation that the same would be submitted to His Excellency in Council.”

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.

Tuesday, 9th January, 1900.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

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

By Mr. *McPhillips*, from *W. B. Davey, J. B. Donald* and *Alex. Millar*, for a Private Bill to incorporate “The Western Telephone and Telegraph Company.”

By Mr. *Tisdall*, from the Bishop and Synod of the Diocese of *New Westminster*, for a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act.

By Mr. *Tisdall*, from *John Hendry* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate “The Rock Bay and Salmon River Railway Company.”

By Mr. *Helmcken*, from *E. J. Palmer* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate “The Horseshoe Bay and Alberni Railway Company.”

The following Petitions were received:—

From *Robert Jaffray* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate the “Crow's Nest Pass Electric Light and Power Company.”

From *H. E. Forster* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate the “East Kootenay Telephone Company.”

From *H. H. Pitts* and others, ratepayers of *Sandon*, *re* amendments to the “Municipal Clauses Act.”

From the Corporation of the *City of Vancouver*, for a Private Bill *re* amendments to their charter.

From *H. B. Robertson* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate “The Taku and Atlin Railway and Navigation Company.”

From “The Vancouver and Lulu Island Railway Company,” for a Private Bill to amend their original charter.

From *Richard Marpole* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate “The Vancouver and Westminster Railway Company.”

From *J. D. Molson* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate “The North Kootenay Water Power and Light Company.”

From *J. T. Bethune* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate “The Chilcat Pass Railway and Navigation Company.”

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

Mr. *Tisdall* moved, seconded by Mr. *J. M. Martin*,—

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 present Session; and further, to assure His Honour that:—

1. While we regret that the Motherland has been forced to draw the sword to protect the soil of two of her Colonies, and to maintain the rights of British subjects which were being ruthlessly disregarded, yet the demonstration of the solidarity of the British Empire evoked by

this war is, in a large measure, a compensation for the evils it must necessarily entail. The promptness with which our volunteers responded to the call to arms is a source of pride and satisfaction to every patriotic citizen of British Columbia. Any measure for giving further expression to the devoted loyalty to the Crown of the people of this Province, which may be submitted to us by His Honour's Government, shall receive our most cordial support. We join with His Honour in praying that our arms may be victorious, that peace may speedily be concluded, and that British supremacy in South Africa may be established on a firm basis.

2. We learn with great satisfaction that the Act passed last Session providing for the speedy determination of disputes as to the ownership of mining claims in the Atlin District has, in the hands of the learned Commissioner who administered it, proved highly beneficial in its operation. We heartily concur with the expressions of His Honour's opinion that this District will be one of the most prosperous mining camps in British Columbia during the coming season.

3. We are pleased to be informed that it is proposed to give to the people of many of the Cities in the Province a larger measure of control of their Schools than they now possess. Such a provision will, no doubt, add to the interest which all citizens should take in the education of the young, and will thus contribute to the efficiency of our school system.

4. Any measure that will facilitate the operations of those engaged in our great lumber industry will receive our most careful consideration.

5. It is highly gratifying to be assured that, notwithstanding the substantial remission of taxation made last Session, the general revenue of the Province is well maintained.

6. We learn with satisfaction that the Provincial loan authorised at the last Session was most successfully negotiated in London in July last, the price realised for the stock being higher than that obtained for any previous issue.

7. We have no doubt that the substitution of a cash subsidy for the land grant to the Columbia and Western Railway Company would be of great advantage to the Province, as thereby a large area of land in the Boundary Creek District would be immediately thrown open for settlement.

8. We concur with His Honour in the view that the great increase in the population of the Boundary Creek District, and the rapid development of its mining and other industries, entitle it to have a representative in the Legislature.

9. The proposed amendments to the "Coal Mines Regulation Act" and the "Liquor Licence Act" shall receive our most careful consideration.

10. We learn with great pleasure that His Honour's Government has given much consideration to the opening up of the northern portion of the Province. The impossibility of transporting heavy mining machinery into the Omineca country must have seriously retarded the development of the undoubtedly great mineral wealth of that region. As the Kitimaat Valley is the natural inlet to that District, we concur with His Honour's view that the Province should take steps to ensure the early construction of a waggon road or railroad through said valley, from tidewater to the centre of mining activity.

11. We thank His Honour for informing us that the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the ensuing fiscal year will shortly be laid before us. We are confident that they will be found to have been framed with every regard for economy consistent with the efficiency of the Public Service.

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

Mr. *Turner* moved in amendment, seconded by Colonel *Baker*,—

To strike out all the words after the word "basis," on the 13th line of the Address to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and add in place thereof the following:—

"That in view of the defeat of the Government on Thursday, the 4th inst., on the Resolution for the consideration of the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and on the Resolution for the adjournment of the House ;

"Therefore, be it Resolved, That the Government has lost efficient control of this House, and also the confidence of the country."

The debate 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 5:45 o'clock, P. M.

Wednesday, 10th January, 1900.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

The following Petitions were received :—

From *W. B. Davey, J. B. Donald* and *Alex. Millar*, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Western Telephone and Telegraph Company."

From the Bishop and Synod of the Diocese of *New Westminster*, for a Private Bill to amend their corporate Act.

From *John Hendry* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Rock Bay and Salmon River Railway Company."

From *E. J. Palmer* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Horseshoe Bay and Alberni Railway Company."

The adjourned debate on the amendment to the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, moved by Mr. *Turner*, as follows :—

To strike out all the words after the word "basis," on the 13th line thereof, and add in place thereof the following :—

"That in view of the defeat of the Government on Thursday, the 4th inst., on the Resolution for the consideration of the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and on the Resolution for the adjournment of the House ;

"Therefore, be it Resolved, That the Government has lost efficient control of this House, and also the confidence of the country"—

was resumed.

The debate was adjourned until 2 o'clock on Friday next.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:40 o'clock, P. M.

Friday, 12th January, 1900.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

Mr. *Clifford* presented a Petition from *Wm. G. Conrad* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Kitimaat Caledonia Company, Limited."

Laid on the table.

The adjourned debate on the amendment to the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, moved by Mr. *Turner*, as follows :—

To strike out all the words after the word "basis," on the 13th line thereof, and add in place thereof the following :—

"That in view of the defeat of the Government on Thursday, the 4th inst., on the Resolution for the consideration of the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and on the Resolution for the adjournment of the House ;

"Therefore, be it Resolved, That the Government has lost efficient control of this House, and also the confidence of the country"—

was resumed.

The debate was again adjourned until the next sitting of the House.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:55 o'clock, P. M.

Monday, 15th January, 1900.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Petition presented by Mr. *Clifford* from *Wm. G. Conrad* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Kitimaat Caledonia Company, Limited," was received.

The adjourned debate on the amendment to the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, moved by Mr. *Turner*, as follows:—

To strike out all the words after the word "basis," on the 13th line thereof, and add in place thereof the following:—

"That in view of the defeat of the Government on Thursday, the 4th inst., on the Resolution for the consideration of the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and on the Resolution for the adjournment of the House;

"Therefore, be it Resolved, That the Government has lost efficient control of this House, and also the confidence of the country"—

was resumed.

The debate was again adjourned until the next sitting of the House.

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

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

Tuesday, 16th January, 1900.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Mr. *R. Smith* presented a Petition from *Geo. McGregor* and others, *re* grievances of settlers within the *Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Belt*.

Laid on the table.

The adjourned debate on the amendment to the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, moved by Mr. *Turner*, as follows:—

To strike out all the words after the word "basis," on the 13th line thereof, and add in place thereof the following:—

"That in view of the defeat of the Government on Thursday, the 4th inst., on the Resolution for the consideration of the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and on the Resolution for the adjournment of the House;

"Therefore, be it Resolved, That the Government has lost efficient control of this House, and also the confidence of the country"—

was resumed.

The debate was again 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 5:55 o'clock, P. M.

Wednesday, 17th January, 1900.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *W. H. Barraclough*.

The Petition from *Geo. McGregor* and others, *re* grievances of settlers within the *Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Belt*, was received and *Ordered* printed.

Mr. *J. M. Martin* presented a Petition from the representatives of a number of mining companies operating in *Kootenay District*, *re* Eight-hour Labour Law.

Laid on the table.

Messrs. the Hon. *F. C. Cotton*, Hon. *R. E. McKechnie*, *Kidd*, *Green*, *A. W. Smith*, *Helmcken* and *Eberts* were appointed to form the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders.

Messrs. *Prentice*, *Wells*, *Tisdall*, *Hall* and *Turner* were appointed to form the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Messrs. the Hon. *R. E. McKechnie*, *Deane*, *Macpherson*, *Neill*, *Munro*, Hon. *A. Henderson*, *Helgesen*, *Kinchant*, *Wells*, *Booth*, *Ellison*, *Bryden*, *Clifford*, *McPhillips*, *Dunsmuir*, *Pooley* and *Hall* were appointed to form the Select Standing Committee on Railways.

Messrs. *Neill*, *J. M. Martin*, Hon. *J. F. Hume*, *Kellie*, *R. Smith*, *Helgesen*, *Green*, Hon. *A. Henderson*, *A. W. Smith*, *Dunsmuir*, *Eberts*, *McBride*, *Robertson*, *Baker* and *Irving* were appointed to form the Select Standing Committee on Mining.

Messrs. *Kidd*, Hon. *R. E. McKechnie*, *Deane*, *Ellison* and *Booth* were appointed to form the Select Standing Committee on Printing.

The Hon. Mr. *Semlin* presented the Twenty-eighth Annual Report of the Public Schools of the Province, 1898-9.

The adjourned debate on the amendment to the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, moved by Mr. *Turner*, as follows:—

To strike out all the words after the word "basis," on the 13th line thereof, and add in place thereof the following:—

"That in view of the defeat of the Government on Thursday, the 4th inst., on the Resolution for the consideration of the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and on the Resolution for the adjournment of the House;

"Therefore, be it Resolved, That the Government has lost efficient control of this House, and also the confidence of the country"—

was resumed.

Mr. *Clifford* moved in amendment to the amendment, seconded by Mr. *Irving*,—

After the word "following," on the second line, insert the following:—"That in view of the legislation by the Government last Session enacting the alien law having proved highly detrimental to the mining industry of the Province, by obstructing the introduction of capital and by hampering the development of our mines, and"—

Mr. Speaker ruled the amendment out of order, as it was not competent to make such a motion until the House has resolved that the words proposed to be left out by the original amendment shall not stand part of the question. *May*, 10th ed., page 284.

The debate was again 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 5:55 o'clock, P. M.

Thursday, 18th January, 1900.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *W. H. Barraclough*.

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

By Mr. *Clifford*, from *Michael King*, for leave to present a Petition for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Lake Bennett Railway Company."

By Mr. *Green*, from *J. M. M. Benedune* and others, residents of *Silverton*, in favour of "Eight-hour Law" continuing in force.

The Petition from the representatives of a number of mining companies operating in *Kootenay District*, re Eight-hour Labour Law, was received.

The adjourned debate on the amendment to the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, moved by Mr. *Turner*, as follows :—

To strike out all the words after the word "basis," on the 13th line thereof, and add in place thereof the following :—

"That in view of the defeat of the Government on Thursday, the 4th inst., on the Resolution for the consideration of the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and on the Resolution for the adjournment of the House ;

"Therefore, be it Resolved, That the Government has lost efficient control of this House, and also the confidence of the country"—

was resumed.

The debate was again adjourned until to-morrow.

The Hon. the Premier presented the following Returns :—

Copies of all correspondence, memorials and documents between the Dominion Government and the Provincial Government, relative to the disallowance by the Dominion Government of the "Labour Regulation Act, 1898," or legislation of a similar character, since the Return presented to this House on the 18th January, 1899.

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

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

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

Friday, 19th January, 1900.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *W. H. Barraclough*.

The following Petitions were received :—

From *Michael King*, for leave to present a Petition for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Lake Bennett Railway Company."

From *J. M. M. Benedune* and others, residents of *Silverton*, in favour of "Eight-hour Law" continuing in force.

Mr. *Green* presented a Petition from the representatives of 33 mining companies operating in *Kootenay District*, re Eight-hour Labour Law, which was read and received.

The adjourned debate on the amendment to the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, moved by Mr. *Turner*, as follows:—

To strike out all the words after the word “basis,” on the 13th line thereof, and add in place thereof the following:—

“That in view of the defeat of the Government on Thursday, the 4th inst., on the Resolution for the consideration of the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and on the Resolution for the adjournment of the House;

“Therefore, be it Resolved, That the Government has lost efficient control of this House and also the confidence of the country”—

was resumed.

Mr. *Helmcken* moved the adjournment of the debate.

Negated on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Pooley,</i> | <i>Clifford,</i> | <i>Eberts,</i> | <i>Irving,</i> |
| <i>Booth,</i> | <i>McBride,</i> | <i>Smith, A. W.,</i> | <i>McPhillips,</i> |
| <i>Dunsmuir,</i> | <i>Baker,</i> | <i>Bryden,</i> | <i>Helmcken,</i> |
| <i>Hall,</i> | <i>Turner,</i> | <i>Ellison,</i> | <i>Prentice—17.</i> |
| <i>Robertson,</i> | | | |

NAYS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>Henderson,</i> | <i>Smith, R.,</i> | <i>McKechnie,</i> | <i>Helgesen,</i> |
| <i>Semlin,</i> | <i>Martin, J. M.,</i> | <i>Kellie,</i> | <i>Green,</i> |
| <i>Cotton,</i> | <i>Tisdall,</i> | <i>Kidd,</i> | <i>Munro,</i> |
| <i>Wells,</i> | <i>Deane,</i> | <i>Kinchant,</i> | <i>Neill—18.</i> |
| <i>Macpherson,</i> | <i>Hume,</i> | | |

Debate resumed.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair at 6 o'clock

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

Question proposed—“Shall the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the question?” and resolved in the affirmative on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

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|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>Henderson,</i> | <i>Smith, R.,</i> | <i>McKechnie,</i> | <i>Helgesen,</i> |
| <i>Semlin,</i> | <i>Martin, J. M.,</i> | <i>Kellie,</i> | <i>Green,</i> |
| <i>Cotton,</i> | <i>Tisdall,</i> | <i>Kidd,</i> | <i>Munro,</i> |
| <i>Wells,</i> | <i>Deane,</i> | <i>Kinchant,</i> | <i>Neill—18.</i> |
| <i>Macpherson,</i> | <i>Hume,</i> | | |

NAYS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Pooley,</i> | <i>Robertson,</i> | <i>Turner,</i> | <i>Ellison,</i> |
| <i>Booth,</i> | <i>Clifford,</i> | <i>Eberts,</i> | <i>Irving,</i> |
| <i>Dunsmuir,</i> | <i>McBride,</i> | <i>Smith, A. W.,</i> | <i>McPhillips,</i> |
| <i>Hall,</i> | <i>Baker,</i> | <i>Bryden,</i> | <i>Helmcken—16.</i> |

Debate on the main question resumed.

Hon. Mr. *Henderson* moved the Previous Question, which was resolved in the affirmative on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>Henderson,</i> | <i>Smith, R.,</i> | <i>McKechnie,</i> | <i>Helgesen,</i> |
| <i>Semlin,</i> | <i>Martin, J. M.,</i> | <i>Kellie,</i> | <i>Green,</i> |
| <i>Cotton,</i> | <i>Tisdall,</i> | <i>Kidd,</i> | <i>Munro,</i> |
| <i>Wells,</i> | <i>Deane,</i> | <i>Kinchant,</i> | <i>Neill—18.</i> |
| <i>Macpherson,</i> | <i>Hume,</i> | | |

NAYS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Pooley,</i> | <i>Robertson,</i> | <i>Turner,</i> | <i>Ellison,</i> |
| <i>Booth,</i> | <i>Clifford,</i> | <i>Eberts,</i> | <i>Irving,</i> |
| <i>Dunsmuir,</i> | <i>McBride,</i> | <i>Smith, A. W.,</i> | <i>McPhillips,</i> |
| <i>Hall,</i> | <i>Baker,</i> | <i>Bryden,</i> | <i>Helmcken—16.</i> |

Resolution agreed to.

A question having arisen as to whether the House has agreed to consider the Address as a whole or clause by clause—

Mr. Speaker ruled that as the amendment was to strike out every clause but the first clause of the Address, and the House having decided that the clauses proposed to be struck out shall stand part of the question, showed that the Address had been taken, dealt with and debated by the House as a whole, and that he would so decide.

Mr. *Turner* appealed from the ruling of the Chair.

The Chair was sustained on the following division :—

YEAS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>Henderson,</i> | <i>Smith, R.,</i> | <i>McKechnie,</i> | <i>Helgesen,</i> |
| <i>Semlin,</i> | <i>Martin, J. M.,</i> | <i>Kellie,</i> | <i>Green,</i> |
| <i>Cotton,</i> | <i>Tisdall,</i> | <i>Kidd,</i> | <i>Munro,</i> |
| <i>Wells,</i> | <i>Deane,</i> | <i>Kinchant,</i> | <i>Neill—18.</i> |
| <i>Macpherson,</i> | <i>Hume,</i> | | |

NAYS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Pooley,</i> | <i>Robertson,</i> | <i>Turner,</i> | <i>Ellison,</i> |
| <i>Booth,</i> | <i>Clifford,</i> | <i>Eberts,</i> | <i>Irving,</i> |
| <i>Dunsmuir,</i> | <i>McBride,</i> | <i>Smith, A. W.,</i> | <i>McPhillips,</i> |
| <i>Hall,</i> | <i>Baker,</i> | <i>Bryden,</i> | <i>Helmcken—16.</i> |

Question proposed—"That the Resolution be now read a second time?"

Mr. *Turner* moved in amendment—That the Address be read and taken clause by clause.

Mr. Speaker stated he thought the motion was out of order, but he would leave the question to the House.

The amendment was negatived on the following division :—

YEAS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Pooley,</i> | <i>Robertson,</i> | <i>Turner,</i> | <i>Ellison,</i> |
| <i>Booth,</i> | <i>Clifford,</i> | <i>Eberts,</i> | <i>Irving,</i> |
| <i>Dunsmuir,</i> | <i>McBride,</i> | <i>Smith, A. W.,</i> | <i>McPhillips,</i> |
| <i>Hall,</i> | <i>Baker,</i> | <i>Bryden,</i> | <i>Helmcken—16.</i> |

NAYS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>Henderson,</i> | <i>Smith, R.,</i> | <i>McKechnie,</i> | <i>Helgesen,</i> |
| <i>Semlin,</i> | <i>Martin, J. M.,</i> | <i>Kellie,</i> | <i>Green,</i> |
| <i>Cotton,</i> | <i>Tisdall,</i> | <i>Kidd,</i> | <i>Munro,</i> |
| <i>Wells,</i> | <i>Deane,</i> | <i>Kinchant,</i> | <i>Neill—18.</i> |
| <i>Macpherson,</i> | <i>Hume,</i> | | |

Resolution read a second time on the following division :—

YEAS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>Henderson,</i> | <i>Smith, R.,</i> | <i>McKechnie,</i> | <i>Helgesen,</i> |
| <i>Semlin,</i> | <i>Martin, J. M.,</i> | <i>Kellie,</i> | <i>Green,</i> |
| <i>Cotton,</i> | <i>Tisdall,</i> | <i>Kidd,</i> | <i>Munro,</i> |
| <i>Wells,</i> | <i>Deane,</i> | <i>Kinchant,</i> | <i>Neill—18.</i> |
| <i>Macpherson,</i> | <i>Hume,</i> | | |

NAYS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Pooley,</i> | <i>Robertson,</i> | <i>Turner,</i> | <i>Ellison,</i> |
| <i>Booth,</i> | <i>Clifford,</i> | <i>Eberts,</i> | <i>Irving,</i> |
| <i>Dunsmuir,</i> | <i>McBride,</i> | <i>Smith, A. W.,</i> | <i>McPhillips,</i> |
| <i>Hall,</i> | <i>Baker,</i> | <i>Bryden,</i> | <i>Helmcken—16.</i> |

Resolution read a third time and agreed to.

On motion of the Honourable the Premier, seconded by the Honourable the Attorney-General, 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 President of the Council, the Honourable the Attorney-General, the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, the Honourable the Provincial Secretary.

The Hon. the Premier, from the Select Committee, reported an Address which read as follows :—

To the Honourable THOMAS R. McINNIS, 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 the present Session, and assure Your Honour that :—

While we regret that the Motherland has been forced to draw the sword to protect the soil of two of her Colonies, and to maintain the rights of British subjects which were being ruthlessly disregarded, yet the demonstration of the solidarity of the British Empire evoked by this war is, in a large measure, a compensation for the evils it must necessarily entail. The promptness with which our volunteers responded to the call to arms is a source of pride and satisfaction to every patriotic citizen of British Columbia. Any measure for giving further expression to the devoted loyalty to the Crown of the people of this Province, which may be submitted to us by Your Honour's Government, shall receive our most cordial support. We join with Your Honour in praying that our arms may be victorious, that peace may speedily be concluded, and that British supremacy in South Africa may be established on a firm basis.

We learn with great satisfaction that the Act passed last Session providing for the speedy determination of disputes as to the ownership of mining claims in the Atlin District has, in the hands of the learned Commissioner who administered it, proved highly beneficial in its operation. We heartily concur with the expressions of Your Honour's opinion that this District will be one of the most prosperous mining camps in British Columbia during the coming season.

We are pleased to be informed that it is proposed to give to the people of many of the Cities in the Province a larger measure of control of their Schools than they now possess. Such a provision will, no doubt, add to the interest which all citizens should take in the education of the young, and will thus contribute to the efficiency of our school system.

Any measure that will facilitate the operations of those engaged in our great lumber industry will receive our most careful consideration.

It is highly gratifying to be assured that, notwithstanding the substantial remission of taxation made last Session, the general revenue of the Province is well maintained.

We learn with satisfaction that the Provincial loan authorised at the last Session was most successfully negotiated in London in July last, the price realised for the stock being higher than that obtained for any previous issue.

We have no doubt that the substitution of a cash subsidy for the land grant to the Columbia and Western Railway Company would be of great advantage to the Province, as thereby a large area of land in the Boundary Creek District would be immediately thrown open for settlement.

We concur with Your Honour in the view that the great increase in the population of the Boundary Creek District, and the rapid development of its mining and other industries, entitle it to have a representative in the Legislature.

The proposed amendments to the "Coal Mines Regulation Act" and the "Liquor Licence Act" shall receive our most careful consideration.

We learn with great pleasure that Your Honour's Government has given much consideration to the opening up of the northern portion of the Province. The impossibility of transporting heavy mining machinery into the Omineca country must have seriously retarded the development of the undoubtedly great mineral wealth of that region. As the Kitimaat Valley is the natural inlet to that District, we concur with Your Honour's view that the Province should take steps to ensure the early construction of a waggon road or railroad through said valley, from tidewater to the centre of mining activity.

We thank Your Honour for informing us that the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the ensuing fiscal year will shortly be laid before us. We are confident that they will be found to have been framed with every regard for economy consistent with the efficiency of the Public Service.

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

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

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

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

And then the House adjourned at 12:25 o'clock, A. M., Saturday, January 20th.

Monday, 22nd January, 1900.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *J. F. Vichert*.

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

By Mr. *McBride*, from "The British Columbia Yukon Railway Company," opposing Petition for leave to present a Petition to incorporate the "Lake Bennett Railway Company."

By Mr. *Eberts*, from *J. G. McKay* and others, *re* school-house built on section 42, *Lake District*.

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

By the Hon. Mr. *Henderson*—Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Evidence Act.'"

By the Hon. Mr. *Henderson*—Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to amend the 'County Courts Act.'"

By the Hon. Mr. *Henderson*—Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act to amend the Law respecting the Liability of Trustees."

By the Hon. Mr. *Henderson*—Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Execution Act.'"

By the Hon. Mr. *Henderson*—Bill (No. 7) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Supreme Court Act.’”

By the Hon. Mr. *Henderson*—Bill (No. 8) intituled “An Act to amend ‘An Act to amend the Companies Act, 1897.’”

By the Hon. Mr. *Henderson*—Bill (No. 9) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Game Protection Act, 1898.’”

By the Hon. Mr. *Henderson*—Bill (No. 10) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Municipalities Incorporation Act.’”

By the Hon. Mr. *Cotton*—Bill (No. 11) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Farmers’ Institutes and Co-operation Act.’”

Mr. *Clifford* moved, seconded by Mr. *Irving*—

That in view of the hasty legislation by the Government last Session in amending the “Placer Mining Act,” by which aliens are deprived of the right to acquire placer mines in this Province, having proved highly detrimental to the mining industry by obstructing the introduction of capital, creating a distrust in titles to mining claims, and by hampering the development of such industries, the Government has forfeited the confidence of the people of this Province.

A question of order arose, upon which Mr. Speaker *Forster* ruled: That Mr. *Jos. Martin*, member for *Vancouver*, was out of order in referring to and discussing on the present motion the debate on the amendment of Mr. *Turner* on the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, disposed of by the House on the 19th instant.—*May*, 308.

Mr. *Martin* appealed from the ruling of the Chair.

The Chair was sustained on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>Henderson,</i> | <i>Macpherson,</i> | <i>Hume,</i> | <i>Helgesen,</i> |
| <i>Semlin,</i> | <i>Smith, R.,</i> | <i>McKechnie,</i> | <i>Green,</i> |
| <i>Cotton,</i> | <i>Martin, J. M.,</i> | <i>Kellie,</i> | <i>Munro,</i> |
| <i>Wells,</i> | <i>Tisdall,</i> | <i>Kidd,</i> | <i>Neill—19.</i> |
| <i>Prentice,</i> | <i>Deane,</i> | <i>Kinchant,</i> | |

NAYS:

Messieurs

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Pooley,</i> | <i>Clifford,</i> | <i>Turner,</i> | <i>Ellison,</i> |
| <i>Booth,</i> | <i>Martin, Jos.,</i> | <i>Eberts,</i> | <i>Irving,</i> |
| <i>Dunsmuir,</i> | <i>McBride,</i> | <i>Smith, A. W.,</i> | <i>McPhillips,</i> |
| <i>Hall,</i> | <i>Baker,</i> | <i>Bryden,</i> | <i>Helmcken—17.</i> |
| <i>Robertson,</i> | | | |

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

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

Debate resumed.

Motion negatived on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Pooley,</i> | <i>Robertson,</i> | <i>Turner,</i> | <i>Ellison,</i> |
| <i>Booth,</i> | <i>Clifford,</i> | <i>Eberts,</i> | <i>Irving,</i> |
| <i>Dunsmuir,</i> | <i>McBride,</i> | <i>Smith, A. W.,</i> | <i>McPhillips,</i> |
| <i>Hall,</i> | <i>Baker,</i> | <i>Bryden,</i> | <i>Helmcken—16.</i> |

NAYS :

Messieurs

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>Henderson,</i> | <i>Macpherson,</i> | <i>Hume,</i> | <i>Helgesen,</i> |
| <i>Semlin,</i> | <i>Smith, R.,</i> | <i>McKechnie,</i> | <i>Green,</i> |
| <i>Cotton,</i> | <i>Martin, J. M.,</i> | <i>Kellie,</i> | <i>Munro,</i> |
| <i>Wells,</i> | <i>Tisdall,</i> | <i>Kidd,</i> | <i>Neill—19.</i> |
| <i>Prentice,</i> | <i>Deane,</i> | <i>Kimchant,</i> | |

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

And then the House adjourned at 10:50 o'clock, P. M.

Tuesday, 23rd January, 1900.

Two o'clock, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *J. F. Vichert*.

The Petition from "The British Columbia Yukon Railway Company," opposing Petition for leave to present a Petition to incorporate the "Lake Bennett Railway Company," was received and *Ordered* to be printed.

The Petition from *J. G. McKay* and others, *re* school-house built on section 42, *Lake District*, was ruled out of order.

Mr. *Clifford* presented a Petition from *E. G. Tilton* and *D. E. Campbell*, for leave to present a Petition for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Imperial Pacific Railway Company." Laid on the table.

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

By the Hon. Mr. *Henderson*—Bill (No. 12) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Notaries Appointment Act.'"

By the Hon. Mr. *McKechnie*—Bill (No. 14) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act.'"

By Mr. *Helmcken*—Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Tramway Incorporation Act.'"

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
January 23rd, 1900.

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. 5—Petition of Atlin Railway.

No. 9—Petition of Chilkat Pass Railway.

With regard to Petition No. 1, of the Crow's Nest Pass Light and Power Company, your Committee beg leave to report that the Standing Orders have not been complied with, as up to the 26th December, 1899, the time had not expired for the publication of the notice ; but

owing to the enterprise being presumably in the public interest, and the Petition being otherwise in order, your Committee recommend the suspension of the Rules, so as to admit of the Bill being introduced, subject to the payment of double fees.

With regard to Petition No. 4, Vancouver City Amendment Bill, your Committee beg leave to report that the Standing Orders have not been complied with, as up to the 26th December, 1899, the time had not expired for the publication of the notice; but owing to the subject-matter of the Petition being presumably in the public interest, and the Petition being otherwise in order, your Committee recommend the suspension of the Rules, so as to admit of the Bill being introduced, subject to the payment of double fees.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. F. GREEN,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

Mr. *Turner* moved, seconded by Colonel *Baker*,—

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, asking that he may be pleased to direct that the accounts of Revenue and Expenditure of the Province from 1st July to 31st December, 1899, be laid before the House.

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

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

Whereas resolutions have at various times been passed by this House for the removal of the Indians from the *Songhees Reserve* :

And whereas the maintenance of such Reserve is a detriment to the *City of Victoria* :

And whereas, lately, an arbitration has been held for ascertaining the price to be paid by the *E. & N. Railway Co.* for the acquisition of the right of way through such Reserve :

Be it therefore *Resolved*, That this House respectfully urge upon the Government the desirability of this matter receiving early consideration, and such steps be taken by the Provincial Government as will ensure the removal of the said Indians from the said Reserve.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all correspondence in connection with the dismissal of Mr. *William Stephenson* from the position of Government Agent at *Quesnelle Forks*.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all correspondence in connection with the dismissal of *Jos. H. St. Laurent* from the position of Road Superintendent, *Cariboo Road*.

On the motion of Mr. *Turner*, seconded by Mr. *Eberts*, 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 Loan of 1899 in *London*, including a copy of the prospectus of the Loan, copy of instructions to agents, and of the applications for allotment, and letters of underwriters.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a detailed Return of all moneys paid, and to whom paid, for legal services rendered to the Government, or any of the Public Departments, and the nature of such services, during 1899.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all correspondence between any member of the Provincial Government and any member or official of the Dominion Government, relative to negotiations allowing the working, under suitable regulations, of the minerals on Indian Reserves within the Province.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all letters or telegrams (if any) from the Agent-General in *London*, or the Bank of British Columbia, sent prior to the flotation of the last loan, calling the attention of the Government to the fact that the presence of the Minister of Finance was necessary in *London* to facilitate the flotation.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all correspondence and papers, of any kind whatsoever, in relation to the cancellation of the pre-emption claim of *Thomas Tugwell* at *Log Cabin*.

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

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, asking that His Honour may be pleased to lay before the House copies of all correspondence in the year 1898, or in any year subsequent thereto, between the Provincial Government and the Dominion Government, or any other parties, in relation to the seizure by the United States, in November, 1897, of certain cattle, the property of Mr. *Thomas Ellis*, of *Penticton*.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all correspondence between the Government or any member or officer thereof, in relation to the schools in *South-East Kootenay*, especially the schools at *Fernie*, *Cranbrook* and *Fort Steele*; and returns of the number of children of school age at each of those three places.

On the motion of Mr. *Smith* seconded by the Hon. Mr. *McKechnie*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a Select Committee of this House, consisting of Messrs. *Booth*, *Helmcken*, *Helgesen*, *Neill*, and the mover, be appointed to enquire into the grievances of certain settlers in *Nanaimo District* and within the *E. & N. Railway Belt*, and set forth by petition or otherwise, and as contained in reports of a Dominion Commissioner appointed by the Dominion Parliament to investigate the whole of the cases, and which has since forwarded above reports to the Provincial Government, with an opinion that a settlement ought to be made by the Provincial Government; with power to send for persons and all necessary papers, and call for and examine witnesses under oath.

Mr. *Deane* moved, seconded by Mr. *Kellie*,—

That whereas among the volunteers who have gone or may go to *South Africa* to serve with Her Majesty's Forces during the present war there are some persons who are the holders of claims under the provisions of the "Mineral Act";

And whereas it is desirable that the said claims should be protected during the absence from British Columbia of said persons, while serving Her Majesty as aforesaid;

Be it therefore Resolved, That the mineral claims of any British Columbia volunteer serving Her Majesty in the present war be not open to location by any person during the absence of such volunteer upon said service, nor for a period of twelve months after the close of said war.

Ruled out of order.

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

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that itemized returns be sent down to this House of all expenses in connection with the floating of the loan authorised by the "Provincial Loan Act, 1899."

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, asking him to cause to be laid before this House copies of the Order in Council remitting the fine imposed upon Mr. *D. M. Galbraith*, of *Duncan*, for an infraction of the "Game Act," together

with copies of the information and depositions taken on the trial, and of all material used or forwarded in support by the said *D. M. Galbraith*, or anyone on his behalf, to obtain the remission of the said fine.

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

What revenue was derived from the taking out of new Free Miners' Certificates, or renewal of same, when were it not for the passage of the "Mineral Act Amendment Act, 1899," Free Miners' Certificates in such cases would have extended beyond the 31st of May, 1899?

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

"The Department of Mines does not receive returns of the Revenue derived from the issue of Free Miners' Certificates, but it was in no way affected by the operation of the 'Mineral Act Amendment Act, 1899.'"

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

1. Has the Government appointed anyone to position of Government Agent at *Quesnelle Forks*?

2. If so, who is appointed?

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

"1. No.

"2. No one."

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

1. Is it a fact that an Order in Council has been passed remitting a fine, or a portion thereof, imposed upon Mr. *Galbraith*, of *Duncan*, for an infraction of the Game Act?

2. What official position does the said Mr. *Galbraith* occupy?

3. What is the date of—

(a.) The imposition of the fine;

(b.) The date of remission thereof.

4. What was the amount of the fine, and what was the amount remitted?

5. Why was the fine remitted?

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

"There is nothing relative to the matter in the Department of Finance."

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

1. Is it the intention of the Government to introduce an Act to repeal the "Placer Mining Act Amendment Act, 1899," commonly known as the "Alien Exclusion Act"?

2. If answered in the negative, or not answered at all, as being a matter of policy—will, if a private member introduces any such Act, the Government permit its consideration by the House?

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

"1. Can not answer, it being a matter of policy.

"2. Any such legislation should be introduced by the Government."

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

1. Has not the "Placer Mining Act Amendment Act, 1899," prevented, and does it not exclude, all aliens from obtaining the rights of free miners, and also exclude all British and Canadian corporations from exercising the rights of free miners even if such corporations take out Provincial Letters of Licence to do business in British Columbia?

2. Has not the "Placer Mining Act Amendment Act, 1899," prevented, and does it not prevent, all aliens and all British and Canadian companies from acquiring, purchasing, or taking the assignment of any placer claims?

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

"1. I object to answer this question, as involving matter of opinion.

"2. I object to answer the second question for a similar reason."

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

1. Has the Government advertised for the construction of roads under the Act, chap. 75, 1899, entitled the "Development of Toll Roads Act"?

2. If so, for what roads?

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

"1. No."

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

How much was paid to the Agent-General in *London* during the year 1899, in addition to the sum voted by Parliament?

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

"Nothing."

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

Is it intended to amend the "Queen's Counsel Act, 1899," so as to make it conform to the legislation of Ontario, and provide in proper cases for the recognition of the Dominion appointments, and in particular recognising gentlemen who have been and are now members of Her Majesty's Privy Council for Canada, and hold Dominion patents as Queen's Counsel?

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

"Question objected to as involving a matter of Government policy."

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

Was that part of the personal property tax known as the mortgage tax collected for the year ending 30th June, 1899, or was any part of that tax collected?

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

"The tax was collected in accordance with the law."

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

Is it intended to bring in an Act to make clear and define how a judgment may be re-registered and renewed, owing to conflict between the "Land Registry Act" and the "Judgments Act, 1899"?

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

"Yes."

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

Is it the intention to bring in an Act striking out of all the Railway Acts (private) passed last Session the following hurtful and non-Canadian clause, which aims at disturbance of national unity, viz.:—"In case at any time the said railway is declared by the Parliament of Canada to be a work for the general advantage of Canada, then all powers and privileges granted by this Act, or by the 'British Columbia Railway Act,' shall thereupon cease and determine"—the above clause appearing in all private railway legislation of last Session, and inserted at the instance of the Government?

Mr. Speaker *Forster* ruled the question out of order.

Colonel *Baker* asked the Hon. the Premier the following question:—

In event of assistance being given by the Government to provide a British Columbian contingent for service in *South Africa*, will the Government insist on the contingent being kept intact as a B. C. force, or as a B. C. unit in any Canadian force which may be sent to *South Africa*?

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

"The Government will do all it can in that direction."

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

What reply, if any, was made by the Government to the Report of the Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council, dated 14th December, 1899, touching the Report of the Minister of Justice upon the Statutes of the Province passed at the last Session?

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

“No reply as yet has been made.”

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

1. What was the overdraft at bank on 30th June, 1899?

2. At what date was the net amount of the 1899 loan placed to the credit of the Province?

3. What is the rate of interest that the bank allows the Province on the credit balance, since the date of that deposit?

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

“1. \$1,159,164.98.”

“2. Deposited in Bank of British Columbia, Victoria:—

| | | | | |
|-----------|------------|---------|---------|----|
| July | 14th, 1899 |\$ | 243,250 | 00 |
| " | 17th, " | | 146,025 | 00 |
| August | 15th, " | | 242,750 | 00 |
| " | 16th, " | | 145,650 | 00 |
| September | 16th, " | | 485,250 | 00 |
| October | 5th, " | | 67,935 | 00 |
| " | 6th, " | | 10,052 | 80 |
| " | 6th, " | | 2,089 | 00 |

\$1,343,001 80

Retained in London to meet Interest and Sinking Funds,
and Interest on Railway Bonds (temporarily bearing
interest at $2\frac{1}{2}\%$)

197,355 96

\$1,540,357 76

“3. There having been no cash balance available, there has been no special deposit placed at interest.”

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

On the motion of Mr. *Kellie*, Private Bill (No. 16) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Chilkat Pass Railway and Navigation Company” was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Railway Committee.

On the motion of Mr. *Green*, Private Bill (No. 17) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Taku and Atlin Railway and Navigation Company” was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Railway Committee.

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