

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

SESSION 1899.

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Thursday, 5th January, 1899.

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THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

This being the first day of the first 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 thirty-first day of October, 1898, the Members having been sworn took their seats.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor having entered the House, took his seat on the Throne.

The Honourable Mr. *Hume*, Provincial Secretary, said—

*Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:*

I am commanded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to announce that His Honour does not see fit to declare the causes of his summoning you at this time, and will not do so until you have chosen a Speaker to preside over your Honourable Body. His Honour hopes to be enabled to declare, during the afternoon, his reasons for calling you together.

His Honour was then pleased to retire.

Mr. *James M. Kellie*, Member for the North Riding of *West Kootenay Electoral District*, addressing himself to the Clerk of the House, moved, seconded by Colonel *James Baker*, Member for the South Riding of *East Kootenay Electoral District*, that *Thomas Forster*, Esquire, Member representing *Delta Riding of Westminster Electoral District*, do take the Chair of this House as Speaker.

And the Clerk having declared *Thomas Forster*, Esquire, duly elected, he was taken out of his place by the Mover and Seconder, and conducted to the Chair, where, standing on the upper step, he expressed his grateful thanks to the House for the great honour they had been pleased to confer upon him by choosing him to be their Speaker.

And thereupon he sat down in the Chair, and the Mace was laid upon the table.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor again entered the House, and taking his seat on the Throne, the Speaker elect then spoke to the following effect:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR :

The House of Assembly have elected me as their Speaker, though I am but little able to fulfil the important duties thus assigned to me.

If, in the performance of those duties, I should at any time fall into error, I pray that the fault may be imputed to me, and not to the Assembly, whose servant I am, and who, through me, the better to enable them to discharge their duty to their Queen and country, humbly claim all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, access to Your Honour's person at all seasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from Your Honour the most favourable interpretation.

The Honourable Mr. *Hume* then said—

MR. SPEAKER :

I am commanded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to declare to you that he freely confides in the duty and attachment of the House of Assembly to Her Majesty's person and Government, and not doubting that their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper, and prudence, he grants, and upon all occasions will recognize and allow, their constitutional privileges.

I am commanded also to assure you that the Assembly shall have ready access to His Honour upon all seasonable occasions, and that their proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favourable construction.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was then pleased to open the Session by the following gracious Speech:—

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

In meeting you at the opening of the First Session of the Eighth Parliament of British Columbia, it is gratifying to me to be able to congratulate you on the prosperity which has been enjoyed during the past year, and on the bright prospects for the one on which we are now entering.

In nearly all the leading industries of the Province, growth and improved conditions are to be observed. The output of the coal mines largely exceeded that of the previous year, and is likely to continue to increase. The development of the quartz mines, especially of those in Kootenay, has been most satisfactory, while a like activity to that which has occurred there, it seems probable, may soon be witnessed in the Boundary Creek District when, by the completion of the railway now in process of construction, the immense bodies of ore known to exist there can be profitably developed. On the west coasts of the Mainland and Island there is also every probability of considerable mining development shortly taking place.

There is also likely to be a large increase within the present year in placer and hydraulic mining operations. Already some large enterprises of this character have been put in successful operation in Cariboo and, on a smaller scale, in the Omineca District; while the recent discoveries at Atlin Lake, in the northern part of the Province, have disclosed deposits of auriferous gravel, rich in quality and spread over a large area. In anticipation of an influx of population into that region, my Government has already taken steps for the proper administration of the district. In order to conserve the natural wealth in these gold gravels for the benefit of Canadian miners and Canadian traders, a Bill will be laid before you prohibiting the acquisition of placer claims by aliens.

After some years of depression, the outlook for the lumbering industry appears more favourable, while the enterprise of those engaged in it has opened new and large markets for the products of our forests.

I regret that the past season has not been a successful one for the salmon-canning industry on the Fraser River, owing to a combination of adverse circumstances; but since our ocean wealth is so great, I can but hope that our fisheries may, in the ensuing season, prove as prolific and profitable to those engaged in them as they have been in previous years.

It is with pleasure that I can refer to the general improvement which has taken place in the condition of our agricultural community. With abundant crops and an ever-expanding home market, there is little doubt that in the future agricultural pursuits will contribute much more largely than heretofore to the wealth of the Province.

A great calamity visited the City of New Westminster in the disastrous conflagration in September last. But the energies and courage of her citizens rose to the emergency, and, encouraged by the sympathy and material assistance of the people of all parts of Canada, they put forth such efforts as have already caused the city to rise from its ashes. You will be asked to pass legislation to put the civic finances on such a stable basis as will maintain the high reputation of the Royal City.

With a view to remove existing inequalities in the present system of taxation, measures will be submitted to you for the remission of that part of the tax on personal property commonly known as the Mortgage Tax, and for the repeal of the law requiring men working in mines for wages to hold a Free Miner's Certificate.

Realizing the advantages to be derived from an absolute security in the titles to land and from an easy and inexpensive system of transfers of real estate titles, my Government will lay before you a Bill to introduce into this Province what is known as the Torrens system of registration, under such arrangements as will make its adoption both convenient and advantageous to the owners of property.

In order to open up the public domain for settlement, while securing to the Province the full benefit which it should derive from such a valuable asset, you will be asked to sanction certain changes in the Land Act.

For the better protection of the miners in coal mines, a Bill will be laid before you prohibiting the employment underground of Japanese in these mines.

A Bill providing for the inspection of stationary boilers will also be introduced.

You will also be asked to consider a measure designed to afford to prospectors on lands within the boundaries of the grants to railway companies the same freedom to prospect for the precious metals as is accorded to them on Crown lands.

Bills will be introduced amending the Supreme Court Act, the Provincial Elections Act, and the Act regulating the issuance of liquor licences, with the aim of bringing legislation regarding these matters into harmony with the present conditions in the Province.

My Government has given much consideration to the present financial position of the Province, and to the means by which important public works can be carried out without imposing undue burdens on the taxpayers, and you will be asked to pass legislation to provide for the deficit in the revenue for the last two years, and for obligations incurred under the authority of Acts already on the Statute Books. Also to authorise certain changes in the methods of dealing with the Provincial debt and in the management of the finances, whereby it is anticipated that both the credit of the Province will be enhanced and important economies be effected.

The Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the ensuing fiscal year will shortly be laid before you, and will show that they have been framed with a view to economy, whilst providing liberally for the necessary public services.

I now leave you to your deliberations, believing that, under the direction of a Divine Providence, the result of your labours will be conducive to the interests of the Province and the welfare and happiness of its people.

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

Prayers by the Lord Bishop of British Columbia.

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

*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 Honourable Mr. *Martin* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to make provision for the trial of certain Election Petitions after the Session of the House of Assembly."

*Ordered*, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

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

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Semlin*, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Martin*,—

*Resolved*, That the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor be taken into consideration to-morrow.

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

And then the House adjourned at 3:55 o'clock, P. M.

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Friday, 6th January, 1899,

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TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Venerable Archdeacon *Scriven*.

The following certificates of the Registrar of the Supreme Court were laid on the table and ordered to be appended to the Journals of the House:—

The election of the Members at the general election.

The election of *Francis Carter Cotton*, Esq., and *Joseph Martin*, Esq., Members for *Vancouver City Electoral District*, to fill the vacancies caused by their resignation on taking office.

The election of *Charles Augustus Semlin*, Esq., a Member for the *West Riding of Yale Electoral District*, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of the said *Charles Augustus Semlin* on taking office.

The election of *John Fred Hume*, a Member for the *Nelson Riding of West Kootenay District*, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of the said *John Fred Hume* on taking office.

The election of *Alan Webster Neill*, a Member for the *Alberni Electoral District*, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of the said *Alan Webster Neill*.

The election of *William R. Robertson*, a Member for the *Cowichan Electoral District*, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of the said *William R. Robertson*.

The following certificates as to the result of the trial of election petitions were presented and read and *Ordered* to be appended to the Journals of the House:—

In the cases of—

John James Downey and Peter Imrie *v.* John Paton Booth.

John Jardine, Thomas Atkins, and John McDonald *v.* William Fitzherbert Bullen.

David Samuel Rees Roberts *v.* Ralph Smith.

William McKinlay *v.* Thomas Kidd.

Walter Richard Wilson *v.* Robert Edward McKechnie.

William Patrick Gregg *v.* John Herbert Turner.

William Patrick Gregg *v.* Richard Hall.

Donald Gilchrist *v.* Richard McBride.

Archibald Campbell Knight *v.* Hans Helgesen and John Charlton Kinchant.

William Patrick Gregg *v.* Harry Dallas Helmcken.

William Patrick Gregg *v.* Albert Edward McPhillips.

Stanley T. Creelman *v.* Charles A. Semlin.

Louis William Paisley *v.* Charles William Munro.

Edward Cawley *v.* John Fred Hume.

Duncan Munn *v.* Alexander Henderson.

John Josiah Chambers *v.* Joseph Martin, Robert Macpherson, Charles Edward Tisdall, and Francis Carter-Cotton.

Frank Sere *v.* David McEwen Eberts.

William Morgan *v.* John Bryden.

Thomas Argyle *v.* Charles Edward Pooley.

James Tolmie *v.* Alan Webster Neill.

William Baillie *v.* James Baker.

Thomas William Fletcher *v.* Price Ellison.

William M. Brown *v.* James M. Kellie.

Donald McCaskill *v.* Thomas Forster.

Douglas G. Grant *v.* James Dunsmuir.

Frederick W. Aylmer *v.* William G. Neilson.

Henry Marymont *v.* James M. Martin.

William Herd *v.* William Russell Robertson.

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

Mr. *R. Smith* moved, seconded by Mr. *Munro*,—

1. That an humble address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, thanking him for his gracious speech at the opening of the First Session of the Eighth Parliament.

2. That we are gratified to learn that during the past year nearly all the leading industries of the Province have improved; that the output of the coal mines has largely exceeded that of the previous year, and that the development of quartz mining, especially in the Kootenay District, has been most satisfactory. It is pleasing to hear that a like development may be anticipated in the Boundary Creek and other districts in the Province.

3. That we have much pleasure in being informed of the discovery of a rich mining country in the Atlin District, and of the measures which His Honour's Government have taken in anticipation of an influx of population into that region, to provide for a proper administration of the District, and of the efforts that are to be made to conserve its natural wealth for the benefit of Canadian miners and traders.

4. That we are happy to learn that the depression in the lumbering industry would seem to be over.

5. That we learn with regret that the past season has not been a successful one for the salmon-canning industry on the Fraser River, and we join in the hope that our fisheries may in the ensuing season prove as prolific and profitable as they have been at any time in the past.

6. That it affords great satisfaction to be assured of the general improvement which has taken place in the condition of our agricultural community.

7. That we were much touched by the great calamity that visited the City of New Westminster in September last, but are greatly pleased to learn that the energy and courage of

her citizens have risen equal to the emergency. We shall give our most earnest consideration to any measures introduced to put the finances of the much afflicted city on a stable basis.

8. That we shall carefully consider the measures proposed to be laid before us dealing with the taxation of mortgages; the introduction of the Torrens system of land registration; the amendment of the Land Act; the protection of miners in coal mines; the inspection of stationary boilers; the amendment of the Supreme Court Act, and other measures foreshadowed in His Honour's Speech.

9. That the improvement of our present financial condition shall receive from us the attention due to so important a matter.

10. That we shall carefully consider the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the ensuing year, which are shortly to be laid before us.

11. That we thank His Honour for his expression of confidence that our labours will be conducted to the interests of the Province and the welfare and happiness of its people.

A debate arose, which was, on the motion of the Premier, adjourned until to-morrow.

The Hon. *Jos. Martin* moved "That Bill (No. 1) intituled 'An Act to make provision for the trial of certain Election Petitions after the Session of the House of Assembly' be read a second time now."

Mr. *McPhillips* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Helmcken*,—

To strike out all the words after the word "That," and insert in lieu thereof the words:—"legislation in the direction of staying the course of the administration of justice is one vicious in principle, and is subversive of law, order and good government, and is calculated to bring the administration of justice into disrepute and make the courts of law the mere mandatories of the political power that may be in the ascendancy; it has ever been opposed to proper precedent to affect pending litigation by legislation:

"Therefore, be it Resolved, That interference with the trial of election petitions and the staying of the trial thereof is wrong in principle and unwarrantably trespasses upon the functions of the Court, and is a matter that ought not to be dealt with by any Bill."

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

<i>Martin, Jos.,</i>	<i>Smith, R.,</i>	<i>McKechnie,</i>	<i>Munro,</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>Neill,</i>
<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Deane,</i>	<i>Kinchant,</i>	<i>Henderson—19.</i>
<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Helgesen,</i>	

NAYS :

Messieurs

<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Ellison,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>
<i>Booth,</i>	<i>Clifford,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>Helmcken,</i>
<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>McBride,</i>	<i>Smith, A. W.,</i>	<i>McPhillips—13.</i>
<i>Robertson,</i>			

Bill read a second time on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

<i>Martin, Jos.,</i>	<i>Smith, R.,</i>	<i>McKechnie,</i>	<i>Munro,</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>Neill,</i>
<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Deane,</i>	<i>Kinchant,</i>	<i>Henderson—19.</i>
<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Helgesen,</i>	

## NAYS :

## Messieurs

<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Ellison,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>
<i>Booth,</i>	<i>Clifford,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>Helmcken,</i>
<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>McBride,</i>	<i>Smith, A. W.,</i>	<i>McPhillips—13.</i>
<i>Robertson,</i>			

To be committed on Monday next.

Mr. *Helmcken* presented a Petition from *H. P. Bell* and others for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Kamloops and Atlin Railway Company."

Laid on the table.

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

And then the House adjourned at 9 o'clock, P. M.

Monday, 9th January, 1899.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Venerable Archdeacon *Scriven*.

The Petition from *H. P. Bell* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Kamloops and Atlin Railway Company," was received.

The following Petitions were presented :—

By Mr. *Kellie*, from "The Kootenay and North-West Railway Company," for a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act.

By Mr. *Henderson*, from "The North Star and Arrow Lake Railway Company," for a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act.

By Mr. *Macpherson*, from *Alfred R. C. Selwyn, I. Oppenheimer, and M. Costello*, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Vancouver, Northern and Yukon Railway Company."

By Mr. *Green*, from *A. St. G. Hamersley*, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The South Kootenay Railway Company."

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

The Hon. *Jos. Martin* moved that the debate be adjourned for one week.

Mr. *Turner* moved, in amendment, that the words "for one week" be struck out, and the words "until the next sitting of this House" be inserted in lieu thereof.

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

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

## NAYS :

## Messieurs

<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Clifford,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>McPhillips,</i>
<i>Booth,</i>	<i>McBride,</i>	<i>Smith, A. W.,</i>	<i>Irving,</i>
<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>	<i>Helmcken—15.</i>
<i>Robertson,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Ellison,</i>	

Original question resolved in the affirmative.

The House proceeded to the Orders of the Day.

Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to make provision for the trial of certain Election Petitions after the Session of the House of Assembly," was committed, with Mr. *Higgins* in the Chair.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair at 6 o'clock, and resumed it again at 7:30 P. M.

House again in Committee on Bill No. 1.

TUESDAY, 10TH JANUARY, 1899.

Bill reported complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

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

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

And then the House adjourned at 9:45 o'clock, A. M.

## Tuesday, 10th January, 1899.

THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Venerable Archdeacon *Scriven*.

The following Petition was presented :—

By Mr. *McPhillips*, from the "British Columbia Telephones, Limited," for a Private Bill to consolidate their properties, and for enlarged powers.

The following Petitions were received :—

From "The North Star and Arrow Lake Railway Company," for a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act.

From *Alfred R. C. Selwyn, I. Oppenheimer, and M. Costello*, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The Vancouver, Northern and Yukon Railway Company."

From *A. St. G. Hamersley*, for a Private Bill to incorporate "The South Kootenay Railway Company."

On the motion of Mr. *Booth*, Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to make provision for the Election of Road Overseers," was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time on Thursday next.

The House proceeded to the Orders of the Day.

Pursuant to Order, the Hon. Attorney-General *Martin* moved—"That Bill (No. 1) intituled 'An Act to make provision for the trial of certain Election Petitions after the Session of the House of Assembly,' be read a third time now."

Mr. *Turner* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Eberts*,—

That the Order for the third reading be discharged and the Bill recommitted.

Mr. *Eberts* raised the point of order that the Bill was a Private Bill.

Mr. Speaker *Forster* : The Bill is a Public Bill, and I so decide.

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

The Chair was sustained on the following division :—

## YEAS :

## Messieurs

<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Hume,</i>	<i>Helgesen,</i>
<i>McPhillips,</i>	<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>McKechnie,</i>	<i>Munro,</i>
<i>Helmcken,</i>	<i>Smith, R.,</i>	<i>Kellie,</i>	<i>Green,</i>
<i>Martin, Jos.,</i>	<i>Martin, J. M.,</i>	<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Neill,</i>
<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Deane,</i>	<i>Kinchant,</i>	<i>Henderson—21.</i>
<i>Cotton,</i>			

## NAYS :

## Messieurs

<i>Booth,</i>	<i>Clifford,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>
<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>McBride,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>Ellison,</i>
<i>Robertson,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Smith, A. W.,</i>	<i>Irving—12.</i>

Debate resumed.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair at 6 o'clock, and resumed it again at 7:30 p. m.

Amendment negatived on the following division :—

## YEAS :

## Messieurs

<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Clifford,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>McPhillips,</i>
<i>Booth,</i>	<i>McBride,</i>	<i>Smith, A. W.,</i>	<i>Irving,</i>
<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>	<i>Helmcken—15.</i>
<i>Robertson,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Ellison,</i>	

## NAYS :

## Messieurs

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

Mr. *Robertson* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Dunsmuir*,—

To strike out the word "now" and insert in place thereof "this day six months."

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

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

## NAYS :

## Messieurs

<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Clifford,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>McPhillips,</i>
<i>Booth,</i>	<i>McBride,</i>	<i>Smith, A. W.,</i>	<i>Irving,</i>
<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>	<i>Helmcken—15.</i>
<i>Robertson,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Ellison,</i>	

Bill read a third time on the following division :—

## YEAS :

## Messieurs

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

## NAYS :

## Messieurs

<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Clifford,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>McPhillips,</i>
<i>Booth,</i>	<i>McBride,</i>	<i>Smith, A. W.,</i>	<i>Irving,</i>
<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>	<i>Helmcken—15.</i>
<i>Robertson,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Ellison,</i>	

*Resolved,* That the Bill do pass.

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

And then the House adjourned at 11:55 o'clock, P. M.

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Wednesday, 11th January, 1899.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Venerable Archdeacon *Scriven*.

On the motion of the Hon. *Jos. Martin*, Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Police and Prisons Regulations Act,'" was introduced and read a first time.  
Second reading to-morrow.

The Petition from the "British Columbia Telephones, Limited," for a Private Bill to consolidate their properties, and for enlarged powers," was received.

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

That an humble address be presented by this House to the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to move the Dominion Government to take into consideration the desirability of increasing the per capita tax on Chinese coming into the Dominion, and urging that in the opinion of this House three-fourths of all moneys received in British Columbia ports from the present tax, or (if such tax be increased) three-fourths of such revenue so increased should be paid to this Province, as the chief injury from the presence of the Chinese is sustained by the Province, and not by the Dominion.

Mr. *Helgesen* moved, seconded by Mr. *Kinchant*,—

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

1. The number of railway companies incorporated by the Legislature of this Province.
2. The Acts of Incorporation of such companies, and the Acts amending the same.
3. The railway companies that have actually constructed and equipped the lines they were empowered to build.
4. The routes along which said railways have been constructed.
5. The aid given to such railways in money and land in each case.

The Hon. Mr. *Cotton* moved in amendment—To strike out line 3 and substitute the following :—

“The names or titles of the Acts of Incorporation of such companies, and the names or titles of the Acts amending the same.”

Amendment carried.

Motion, as amended, put and carried.

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

That a respectful address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor praying him to cause to be laid before the House copies of all correspondence between the Dominion Government and the Provincial Government touching the protest made by the Emperor of Japan to the Imperial Government, calling in question the “Labour Regulation Act, 1898,” or legislation of a similar character concerning Japanese subjects.

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

That an humble Address be presented by this House to the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him for a Return showing—

- (1.) The names of applicants for land who have been refused Crown grants by the Government since the 15th August, 1898.
- (2.) Date when applications were made.
- (3.) Upon what grounds the applications were refused.
- (4.) Where the said lands are situated.

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

Mr. *Fell*, the Clerk of the House, read the title to the following Bill :—

An Act to make provision for the trial of certain Election Petitions after the Session of the House of Assembly.

His Honour was pleased, in Her Majesty’s name, to give assent to this Bill.

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 this Bill.”

On the motion of Mr. *Turner*, seconded by Colonel *Baker*, 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 copies of all correspondence between His Honour and the late Premier of the Province, Mr. *J. H. Turner*, in relation to His Honour’s refusal to sign certain warrants, and to the dismissal of the late Government.

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

Has any communication been received by the Provincial Government from the Dominion Government relative to a protest made by His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Japan to the Imperial Government against the Act known as “Labour Regulation Act, 1898,” or legislation of a similar character? What is the nature of such protest?

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

“Two communications have been received by the Provincial Government from the Dominion Government relative to the protest made by His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Japan to the Imperial Government against the Act known as the ‘Labour Regulation Act, 1898,’ and all the Private Acts of last Session which included the anti-Japanese clause.

“The nature of the protest is that such legislation is unfriendly and discriminating against Japanese subjects, and that such legislation, if allowed to become law, cannot but injuriously affect the cordial and commercial relations which exist between Japan and the Dominion of Canada, and which have every prospect of further development in the near future.”

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

What reply (if any) has been received from the Dominion Government touching the resolution of this House passed on the 25th March, 1898, relative to the establishment of a Mint in the Province of British Columbia?

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

“An acknowledgment by the Department of the Secretary of State of the receipt of the Resolution, and an intimation that the matter would be submitted to His Excellency in Council.”

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

What reply (if any) has been received from the Dominion Government touching the resolution of this House passed on the 3rd May, 1898, relative to the removal of the Indians from the *Songhees Reserve*?

What is the present position of the question?

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

“The reply received with regard to the Resolution referred to states that the Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs cannot advise acquiescence in the suggestion that the negotiations should be resumed in accordance with the terms of the Resolution of the Legislative Assembly of the 28th of January, 1896, which provided for the appointment of a Special Commission.”

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

Has any report been received by the Provincial Government from the Dominion Government touching the allowance of “Labour Regulation Act, 1898”? If so, what is the nature of such report?

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

“The Dominion Government has communicated to the Provincial Government the report of the Minister of Justice with regard to the ‘Labour Regulation Act, 1898.’ The nature of that report is that protests have been made through the Imperial Government against such legislation, and that the Imperial Government regards the matter as one of Imperial interest. The Provincial Government is asked to give the matter early consideration, stating any facts or reasons which they desire to be considered; also that it should be ascertained whether the Provincial Government would be prepared to recommend the repeal of the said Act, and of all the anti-Japanese and anti-Chinese sections of the Private Acts containing the same.”

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

Is it the intention to bring down legislation preventing or restricting the emigration to British Columbia of Chinese and Japanese?

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

“This question involves a question of policy, and is therefore out of order.”

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

That the Order of this House that the debate on the Address be adjourned for one week from Monday last be rescinded, and that such debate be now proceeded with.

The motion was withdrawn.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Hume*, Bill (No. 4) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Placer Mining Act,’” was introduced and read a first time.

Second reading to-morrow.

The following members were nominated on Standing Committees as follows :—

Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders—Hon. *F. C. Cotton*, Messrs. *Henderson*, *Prentice*, *Higgins*, *A. W. Smith*, *Helmcken*, and *Eberts*.

Committee on Public Accounts—Messrs. *Kidd*, *J. M. Martin*, Hon. *C. A. Semlin*, *Turner*, and *A. W. Smith*.

Committee on Railways—Messrs. *Higgins*, *Kellie*, *McKechnie*, Hon. *Jos. Martin*, *Neill*, *Munro*, *Kidd*, *Kinchant*, *Macpherson*, *Henderson*, *Booth*, *Ellison*, *Bryden*, *Clifford*, *McPhillips*, *Dunsmuir*, and *Pooley*.

Committee on Mining—Messrs. *J. M. Martin*, *Green*, *R. Smith*, *Neill*, *Kellie*, *Helgesen*, Hon. *J. F. Hume*, Hon. *Jos. Martin*, *A. W. Smith*, *Dunsmuir*, *Eberts*, *McBride*, *Robertson*, *Baker*, and *Irving*.

Committee on Printing—Messrs. *Prentice*, *Kidd*, *Ellison*, *Deane*, and *Booth*.

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

And then the House adjourned at 3:50 P. M.

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## Thursday, 12th January, 1899.

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TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Venerable Archdeacon *Scriven*.

The following Petitions were presented :—

By Mr. *Prentice*, from *Peter Ryan*, *Bernard Ryan*, *John Shields*, *J. C. S. Shields*, and *Claude R. Doxat*, for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Ashcroft Water-Works Company."

By Mr. *Munro*, from *Albert Nicholson* and others, land-owners within *Sumas Dyking District*, for relief against assessments made by the Dyking Commissioners.

By Mr. *Higgins*, from *John Harold Senkler*, *Arthur Percival Judge*, and *Edgar Bloomfield*, for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Chartered Commercial Company."

By Mr. *Kinchant*, from *John Harold Senkler*, *Arthur Percival Judge*, and *Edgar Bloomfield*, for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Cariboo and Skeena Railway Company."

Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Police and Prisons Regulations Act'" was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Placer Mining Act'" was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Mr. *Booth* moved the second reading of Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to make provision for the Election of Road Overseers."

The motion and the Bill were withdrawn.

The names of Colonel *Baker* and Mr. *Deane* were added to the Railway Committee, and the name of Mr. *Neill* was dropped therefrom. The name of Mr. *Green* was substituted for the name of Mr. *Kellie* as a member of the same Committee.

*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.

Friday, 13th January, 1899.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Venerable Archdeacon *Scriven*.

Mr. *Prentice* presented a Petition from the "Kitimaat Railway Company," for a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act.

The following Petitions were received:—

From *Peter Ryan, Bernard Ryan, John Shields, J. C. S. Shields, and Claude R. Dozat*, for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Ashcroft Water-Works Company."

From *Albert Nicholson* and others, land-owners within *Sumas Dyking District*, for relief against assessments made by the Dyking Commissioners. *Ordered* to be printed.

From *John Harold Senkler, Arthur Percival Judge, and Edgar Bloomfield*, for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Chartered Commercial Company."

From *John Harold Senkler, Arthur Percival Judge, and Edgar Bloomfield*, for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Cariboo and Skeena Railway Company."

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
13th January, 1899.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

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

No. 1—The Petition of the Kamloops and Atlin Railway Company.

No. 4—The Petition of the North Star and Arrow Lake Railway Company.

D. W. HIGGINS,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

On the motion of Mr. *Kellie*, it was *Ordered* that seven form a quorum of the Mining Committee.

*Ordered*, That the name of Mr. *Clifford* be substituted for the name of Colonel *Baker* as a member of the Mining Committee.

On the motion of the Hon. *Jos. Martin*, Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act to reduce the number of Grand Jurors," was introduced and read a first time.

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

On the motion of Mr. *Helmcken*, Private Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Kamloops and Atlin Railway Company," was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Railway Committee.

On the motion of Mr. *Henderson*, Private Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act to amend the 'North Star and Arrow Lake Railway Act, 1898,'" was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Railway Committee.

Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Police and Prisons Regulations Act,'" was committed, with Mr. *Kidd* in the Chair.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

Third reading on Monday next.

Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Placer Mining Act'" was committed, with Mr. *Booth* in the Chair.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered on Monday next.

On the motion of the Hon. *Jos. Martin*, Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Small Debts Act,'" was introduced and read a first time.

Second reading on Monday next.

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

And then the House adjourned at 3:10 o'clock, P. M.

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## Monday, 16th January, 1899.

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TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Dr. *Campbell*.

The following Petitions were presented :—

By Mr. *Kellie*, from the "Kootenay and North-West Railway Company," for a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act.

By Mr. *Kellie*, from *J. D. Molson, A. R. B. Hearn*, and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Big Bend Transportation Company."

By Mr. *Helgesen*, from *Wm. Templeman, E. G. Tilton* and *H. A. Munn*, for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Pine Creek Flume Company."

By Mr. *Clifford*, from *Wallace Langley* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate the "Atlin Short Line Railway Company."

By Mr. *Helmcken*, from *Patrick Ferrall*, asking investigation *re* his dismissal in 1889 from the position of first convict guard in the Provincial Gaol at *Victoria*.

By Mr. *Green*, from *F. G. Carlisle* and others, asking an appropriation for mineral exhibit in *London*.

Ruled out of order.

The Petition from the "Kitimaat Railway Company," presented on the 13th inst., was withdrawn.

Mr. *Prentice* presented a Petition from the "Kitimaat Railway Company," for a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
16th January, 1899.

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. 2—The Petition of the Ashcroft Water-Works Company.

No. 5—The Petition of the Vancouver, Northern and Yukon Railway Company.

D. W. HIGGINS,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

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

The debate was adjourned until to-morrow.

On the motion of the Hon. *Jos. Martin*, Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act respecting the Registration of Real Property in British Columbia" was introduced and read a first time.  
Second reading to-morrow.

On the motion of Mr. *Macpherson*, Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Master and Servants Amendment Act, 1898,'" was introduced and read a first time.  
Second reading to-morrow.

On the motion of Mr. *Macpherson*, Private Bill (No. 11) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver, Northern and Yukon Railway Company" was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Railway Committee.

On the motion of Mr. *Prentice*, Private Bill (No. 12) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Ashcroft Water, Electric and Improvement Company" was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Private Bills Committee.

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

That an humble Address be presented by this House to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to cause to be laid before the House copies of all correspondence between the Dominion Government and the Provincial Government touching the removal of the Indians from the *Songhees Reserve*, since the Return presented to this House on the 31st day of March, 1898.

On the motion of Mr. *Helgesen*, seconded by Mr. *Kinchant*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a respectful Address be presented by this House to the Lieutenant-Governor, praying His Honour to move the Dominion Government to furnish this House with the following returns, viz. :—

1. The number of Chinese landed at the various ports of the Province from foreign ports, and the amount of head tax collected during the years 1897-98.
2. The number of Japanese landed at the various ports of the Province from foreign ports during the same period.
3. The number of Chinese and Japanese landed at the Quarantine Station at *Victoria* during the same period.

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

That a Select Committee of this House, consisting of Messrs. *Macpherson*, *Kellie*, *Booth*, *Helmcken* and the mover, be appointed to inquire into the number of hours the female employés at the central office of the *Victoria and Esquimalt Telephone Company* are employed each day, the number of days that constitute a week's work, and the remuneration paid each employé, together with any other information connected with the working of the system that may be deemed necessary by the Committee; with power to send for persons and papers and examine witnesses under oath.

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

That an humble Address be presented by this House to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to cause to be laid before the House copies of all correspondence between the Dominion Government and the Provincial Government, touching the Resolution of this House passed on the 25th March, 1898, relative to the establishment of a Mint in this Province.

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

That an humble Address be presented by this House to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to move the Dominion Government to take steps to amend the Statutes

of Canada with reference to marine and fisheries, so as to provide for the appointment of a board of local commissioners having jurisdiction over the fisheries of this Province, with full power and authority to make rules and regulations concerning them.

A debate arose, which was adjourned until this day week.

*Ordered*, That the order for the consideration of the Report on Bill No. 4 be discharged and the Bill referred back to the Committee of the Whole House to-morrow, with instructions to strike out sub-section (4) of section 2 of said Bill and substitute therefor the following:—

“(4.) A free miner’s certificate issued before the coming into force of this section, the holder of which is not a British subject, shall not entitle the person holding the same to take up, record or acquire any interest in any claim under the ‘Placer Mining Act,’ but such certificate shall be valid only with regard to claims recorded under the ‘Placer Mining Act’ prior to the coming into force of this section, and as to which the holder of such certificate was prior to the coming into force of this section the owner, either wholly or in part. Any such certificate may be renewed, but such renewed certificate shall only be valid with regard to claims recorded under the ‘Placer Mining Act’ under the circumstances in this sub-section stated.”

And also to add to said section 2 the following sub-section:—

“(6.) This section shall not apply to persons to whom the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may, under the provisions of the ‘Placer Mining Act’ grant a lease for dredging, or for what is known as hydraulic mining, as distinguished from ordinary placer sluicing.”

Bill (No. 2) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Police and Prisons Regulation Act’” was read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 5) intituled “An Act to reduce the number of Grand Jurors” was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

The name of Mr. *Prentice* was substituted for that of Mr. *Kidd* as a member of the Public Accounts Committee.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:45 o’clock, P. M.

Tuesday, 17th January, 1899.

TWO O’CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Dr. *Campbell*.

The following Petitions were received:—

From the “Kootenay and North-West Railway Company,” for a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act.

From *J. D. Molson, A. R. B. Hearn*, and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate the “Big Bend Transportation Company.”

From *William Templeman, E. G. Tilton* and *H. A. Munn*, for a Private Bill to incorporate the “Pine Creek Flume Company.”

From *Wallace Langley* and others, for a Private Bill to incorporate the “Atlin Short Line Railway Company.”

From *Patrick Ferrall*, asking investigation *re* his dismissal in 1889 from the position of first convict guard in the Provincial Gaol at *Victoria*.

From the “Kitimaat Railway Company,” for a Private Bill to amend their Corporate Act.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
17th January, 1899.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

That with respect to the Petition of the South Kootenay Railway Company (Petition No. 6), the notices were duly published, but the rules have not been complied with, as the papers were deposited with the Clerk two days after the time limited therefor. Your Committee, therefore, beg to report this Petition subject to the payment of double fees.

D. W. HIGGINS,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

The following papers, &c., were presented:—

Return of Orders in Council passed under the provisions of chapter 157, R. S. (1897), "Probates Recognition Act."

Statement of Commons established, shewing revenue collected for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

Statement of the names and places of residence of Collectors of Revenue paid by commission, rate of same, and of date of authority therefor.

Statement of bonds deposited in the Provincial Secretary's Office by civil officers of the Province for the due performance of their duties, under the "Civil Service Act."

Regulations and Orders made by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, under section 150 of the "Placer Mining Act," and section 143 of the "Mineral Act."

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

Resolution agreed to.

Resolution read a second and 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, and the Honourable the Minister of Finance.

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

*To the Honourable THOMAS R. McINNES, 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 First Session of the Eighth Parliament, and we are gratified to learn that during the past year nearly all the leading industries of the Province have improved; that the output of the coal mines has largely exceeded that of the previous year, and that the development of quartz mining, especially in the Kootenay District, has been most satisfactory. It is pleasing to hear that a like development may be anticipated in the Boundary Creek and other districts in the Province.

We have much pleasure in being informed of the discovery of a rich mining country in the Atlin District, and of the measures which Your Honour's Government have taken in anticipation of an influx of population into that region, to provide for a proper administration of the district, and of the efforts that are to be made to conserve its natural wealth for the benefit of Canadian miners and traders.

We are happy to learn that the depression in the lumbering industry would seem to be over.

We learn with regret that the past season has not been a successful one for the salmon-canning industry on the Fraser River, and we join in the hope that our fisheries may in the ensuing season prove as prolific and profitable as they have been at any time in the past.

It affords great satisfaction to be assured of the general improvement which has taken place in the condition of our agricultural community.

We were much touched by the great calamity that visited the City of New Westminster in September last, but are greatly pleased to learn that the energy and courage of her citizens have risen equal to the emergency. We shall give our most earnest consideration to any measures introduced to put the finances of the much afflicted city on a stable basis.

We shall carefully consider the measures proposed to be laid before us dealing with the taxation of mortgages; the introduction of the Torrens system of land registration; the amendment of the Land Act; the protection of miners in coal mines; the inspection of stationary boilers; the amendment of the Supreme Court Act, and other measures foreshadowed in Your Honour's Speech.

The improvement of our present financial condition shall receive from us the attention due to so important a matter.

We shall carefully consider the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the ensuing year, which are shortly to be laid before us.

We thank Your Honour for your expression of confidence that our labours will be conducted to the interests of the Province and the welfare and happiness of its people.

The Report was adopted.

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.

On the motion of the Hon. the Attorney-General, it was *Resolved*,—

That it be an instruction to the Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Placer Mining Act,'" to consider the insertion of the following new section:—

"3. All the provisions in said chapter 136 as to the rights, privileges, and powers of free miners shall be subject to the provisions of this Act."

Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Placer Mining Act'" was again committed. Reported complete with amendments.

Report adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act to reduce the number of Grand Jurors" was committed, with Mr. *Macpherson* in the Chair.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Small Debts Act'" was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Master and Servants Amendment Act 1898,'" was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

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

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

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Wednesday, 18th January, 1899.

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TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Dr. *Campbell*.

Mr. *Green* presented a Petition from *A. St. G. Hamersley* re Report of Private Bills Committee on the Petition re Private Bill to incorporate the "South Kootenay Railway Company." Received.

The Hon. Mr. *Cotton* presented the Public Accounts of the Province for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1898.

The Hon. Mr. *Semlin* presented a Return of copies of all correspondence between the Dominion Government and the Provincial Government, touching the protest made by the Emperor of Japan to the Imperial Government, calling in question the "Labour Regulation Act, 1898," or legislation of a similar character concerning Japanese subjects.

Also, the Report of the Minister of Justice on the Acts passed during the Session of 1898.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
January 18th, 1899.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That the following papers were ordered to be printed :

1. Statement of bonds deposited in the Provincial Secretary's Office by civil officers of the Province for the due performance of their duties under the "Civil Service Act."
2. Statement of commons established, shewing revenue collected for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.
3. Return of Regulations and Orders made by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in Council under section 150 of the "Placer Mining Act," and section 143 of the "Mineral Act."
4. Return of Orders in Council passed under the provisions of chapter 157, R. S. (1897), "Probates Recognition Act."
5. Statement of the names and places of residence of Collectors of Revenue paid by commission, rate of same, and date of authority therefor.

The Report was received.

THOMAS KIDD,  
*Chairman.*

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

That an Order of the House be granted for copies of all correspondence between the Government, or any member thereof, and *John D. Sibbald*, Gold Commissioner (*Revelstoke*), touching the latter's dismissal, and a resolution passed by the citizens of *Revelstoke* (in mass meeting) on the 7th inst., protesting against Mr. *Sibbald's* dismissal.

A debate arose, which was adjourned until Monday next.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all papers, correspondence, evidence and finding of the Judge, in connection with the Royal Commission of Inquiry appointed under the "Public Inquiries Act," September 15th, 1898.

On the motion of the Hon. *Jos. Martin*, Bill (No. 13) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act'" was introduced and read a first time.

Second reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Placer Mining Act'" was read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act to reduce the number of Grand Jurors" was read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Small Debts Act'" was committed.  
Reported complete with amendments.  
Report adopted.  
Third reading to-morrow.

The Hon. *Jos. Martin* moved—"That Bill (No. 8) intituled 'An Act respecting the Registration of Real Property in British Columbia' be read a second time now."  
A debate arose, which was adjourned until Monday next.

Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Master and Servant Amendment Act 1898,'" was committed.  
Progress reported.  
Committee to sit again to-morrow.

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

Mr. *Fell*, the Clerk of the House, read the title to the following Bill:—

An Act to amend the "Placer Mining Act."

His Honour was pleased, in Her Majesty's name, to give assent to this Bill.

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 this Bill."

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

And then the House adjourned at 4:15 o'clock, P. M.

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## Thursday, 19th January, 1899.

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TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Dr. *Campbell*.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
January 19th, 1899.

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. 10—The Petition of the British Columbia Telephones, Limited.

No. 7—The Petition of the Pine Creek Flume Company.

No. 8—The Petition of the Atlin Short Line Railway Company.

No. 12—The Petition of the Chartered Commercial Company.

No. 13—The Petition of the Cariboo and Skeena Railway.

No. 11A—The Petition of the Kitimaat Railway Company.

With respect to No. 3, the Petition of the Kootenay and North-West Railway Company, your Committee beg to call the attention of the House to the fact that the Petition does not comport with the notices, in that the words "for a period of three years" are omitted from, and the words "and that the company may have the power to extend its line to the southern boundary of the Province" are inserted in the Petition.

Your Committee, therefore, report that in the case of this Petition the Standing Orders have not been complied with.

D. W. HIGGINS,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received, except so much of the same as referred to the "Kootenay and North-West Railway Bill," which was referred back to the Committee for further consideration.

On the motion of Mr. *Prentice*, Private Bill (No. 14) intituled "An Act respecting the British Columbia Telephones, Limited," was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Private Bills Committee.

On the motion of Mr. *Green*, Private Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the South Kootenay Railway Company" was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Railway Committee.

On the motion of Mr. *Clifford*, Private Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Atlin Short Line Railway and Navigation Company" was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Railway Committee.

Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Small Debts Act'" was read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Master and Servant Act'" was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered at 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 3:15 o'clock, P. M.

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Monday, 23rd January, 1899.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

Mr. *McKechnie* presented a Petition from *G. W. Mitchell*, *E. C. Hawkins* and *J. H. Greer*, for leave to present a Petition for leave to introduce a Private Bill *re* "Atlin Southern Railway."

Received and referred to the Private Bills Committee for consideration and report.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
23rd January, 1899.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Petition No. 3—The Petition of the Kootenay and North-West Railway Company.

Your Committee has considered this Petition, and beg to report that the said Petition does not comply with the Standing Orders, inasmuch as—

1. No copy of the Petition or Bill was deposited within the time ;
2. That the fee was not paid within the time ; and
3. The Petition exceeds the notice, in so far as the said Petition asks "that the Company may have the power to extend its line to the southern boundary of the Province."

Your Committee is of the opinion that as the Bill is presumably one in the public interest, the rules should be suspended to admit of the Bill being introduced, except so much as relates to granting power to extend its line to the southern boundary of the Province, and on the payment of double fees. And your Committee begs to recommend the same accordingly.

Petition No. 9—The Petition of the Big Bend Transportation Company, Limited.

Your Committee begs to report that this Petition does not comply with the rules, inasmuch as it exceeds the notice in asking for powers "or elsewhere in the Province of British Columbia"; but as the Petition otherwise complies with the rules, your Committee recommends that the said Petition be reported, to allow of the Bill being introduced, excepting so much thereof as refers to that portion as asks for power "elsewhere in the Province of British Columbia."

Your Committee also begs to report the preamble proved of Bill (No. 12) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Ashcroft Water, Electric and Improvement Company," and submits the same herewith with amendments.

D. W. HIGGINS,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

On the motion of Mr. *Helgesen*, Private Bill (No. 17) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Pine Creek Flume Company, Limited," was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Private Bills Committee.

On the motion of Mr. *Kinchant*, Private Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Cariboo and Skeena Railway Company," was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Railway Committee.

On the motion of Mr. *Higgins*, Private Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Chartered Commercial Company of Vancouver, Limited," was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Private Bills Committee.

On the motion of Mr. *Kellie*, Private Bill (No. 20) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Big Bend Transportation Company, Limited," was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Private Bills Committee.

The adjourned debate on the motion moved by Mr. *McBride* on 16th January, 1899 :—

"That an humble Address be presented by this House to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to move the Dominion Government to take steps to amend the Statutes of Canada with reference to marine and fisheries, so as to provide for the appointment of a board of local commissioners having jurisdiction over the fisheries of this Province, with full power and authority to make rules and regulations concerning them"—

was resumed.

Motion withdrawn.

The adjourned debate on the motion moved by Mr. *Eberts* on 18th January, 1899 :—

"That an Order of the House be granted for copies of all correspondence between the Government, or any member thereof, and *John D. Sibbald*, Gold Commissioner (*Revelstoke*), touching the latter's dismissal, and a resolution passed by the citizens of *Revelstoke* (in mass meeting) on the 7th inst., protesting against Mr. *Sibbald's* dismissal"—

was resumed.

Motion carried.

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

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

1. The names of all mines in the Province which have paid the tax on their outputs under the provisions of the Mineral Act.
2. The amounts so paid by each mine in each year since the Act came into force.
2. The value of each mine paying such tax.
4. The amount that said mines would have paid if they had been assessed as real property.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return in detail of the 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.

The Hon. *Jos. Martin* moved in amendment, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Semlin*,—

To add to the motion the words:—"and a statement of all moneys owing to the Government in connection with such assistance, together with the names of parties owing such moneys and amounts due."

Amendment carried.

Motion, as amended, carried.

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

That whereas, in the administration by the Dominion Government of the Canadian Pacific Railway Belt, certain difficulties have arisen which tend to retard settlement; and

Whereas it is believed these difficulties could be removed and the prosperity of the Province greatly enhanced by the application of the Provincial land laws within the said Railway Belt:

Therefore, be it Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, the Provincial Government should endeavour, through negotiations with the Dominion Government, to secure the application of the said land and mining laws within the said Railway Belt.

Mr. *Henderson* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Neill*,—

That all the words after "secure" be struck out, and that the words "such steps being taken as will most effectually remove the said difficulties" be added.

Amendment carried.

Motion, as amended, carried.

The Hon. Mr. *Semlin* presented a Return of copies of all correspondence between His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and the late Premier of the Province, Mr. *J. H. Turner*, in relation to His Honour's refusal to sign certain warrants, and to the dismissal of the late Government.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act respecting the Registration of Real Property in British Columbia," was resumed.

Mr. *Eberts* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *A. W. Smith*,—

To strike out the words after "That" and insert the following in lieu thereof:—"the introduction of compulsory registration, under this Act, of title to land is not advisable in the best interests of the Province."

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 P. M.

Tuesday, 24th January, 1899.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

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

1. The number of railway companies incorporated by the Legislature of this Province.
2. The names or titles of the Acts of Incorporation of such companies, and the names or titles of the Acts amending the same.
3. The railway companies that have actually constructed and equipped the lines they were empowered to build.
4. The routes along which said railways have been constructed.
5. The aid given to such railways in money and land in each case.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act respecting the Registration of Real Property in British Columbia," and the amendment thereto moved by Mr. *Eberts*, seconded by Mr. *A. W. Smith*,—

"To strike out the words after 'That' and insert the following in lieu thereof:—'the introduction of compulsory registration, under this Act, of title to land is not advisable in the best interests of the Province'"—

was resumed.

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

<i>Clifford,</i>	<i>Prentice,</i>	<i>McKechnie,</i>	<i>Munro,</i>
<i>Martin, Jos.,</i>	<i>Macpherson,</i>	<i>Kellie,</i>	<i>Green,</i>
<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Smith, R.,</i>	<i>Kidd,</i>	<i>Neill,</i>
<i>Cotton,</i>	<i>Martin, J. M.,</i>	<i>Kinchant,</i>	<i>Henderson—19.</i>
<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Deane,</i>	<i>Helgesen,</i>	

NAYS :

Messieurs

<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Robertson,</i>	<i>Eberts,</i>	<i>Ellison,</i>
<i>Booth,</i>	<i>McBride,</i>	<i>Smith, A. W.,</i>	<i>Irving,</i>
<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Bryden,</i>	<i>Helmcken—12.</i>

Bill read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

On the motion of Mr. *Prentice*, Private Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Kitimaat Railway Act, 1898,'" was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Railway Committee.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,

24th January, 1899.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

We have considered Bills—

No. 11—An Act to Incorporate the "Vancouver, Northern and Yukon Railway Company,

No. 7—An Act to amend the "North Star and Arrow Lake Railway Act, 1898,"

No. 6—An Act to Incorporate the “Kamloops and Atlin Railway Company,” and herewith report the preambles of the said Bills proved, and beg leave to submit the said Bills with amendments.

ROBT. MACPHERSON,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

The certificate of the Registrar of the Supreme Court of the election of *Charles Edward Tisdall*, Esq., Member for *Vancouver City* Electoral District, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of the said *C. E. Tisdall*, was laid on the table and *Ordered* to be placed on the Journals of the House.

“SUPREME COURT,  
“24th January, 1899.

“Whereas a vacancy occurred in the Legislative Assembly in consequence of the resignation of *Charles Edward Tisdall*, Esquire, a Member for the *Vancouver City* Electoral District:

“And whereas on the 11th day of January, 1899, a writ for the election of a Member to represent such District was duly issued to *William McCraney*, Esq., the Returning Officer of the said District:

“Now I do hereby certify that on the 24th day of January, 1899, the said writ was returned to me, by the said Returning Officer, with his certificate attached thereto, whereby it appears that *Charles Edward Tisdall*, Esquire, has been, under and by virtue of the said writ, elected a Member to represent the said *Vancouver City* Electoral District in the Legislative Assembly.

“B. H. TYRWHITT DRAKE,  
“Registrar Supreme Court, B. C.”

*Charles Edward Tisdall*, Esq., Member for *Vancouver City* Electoral District, having been duly sworn, was introduced by the Hon. Mr. *Semlin* and the Hon. Mr. *Cotton*, and took his seat.

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

And then the House adjourned at 4:10 o'clock, P. M.

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Wednesday, 25th January, 1899.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
25th January, 1899.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Your Committee have considered Bill (No. 14) intituled “An Act respecting the British Columbia Telephones, Limited,” and now beg to report the preamble of said Bill proved, and submit the said Bill herewith, with amendments.

D. W. HIGGINS,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
January 25th, 1899.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

We have considered Bills—

No. 15—An Act to Incorporate the South Kootenay Railway Company,

No. 16—An Act to Incorporate the Atlin Short Line Railway and Navigation Company, and herewith report the preambles of the said Bills proved, and beg leave to submit the said Bills with amendments.

ROBERT MACPHERSON,  
*Chairman.*

The Report was received.

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

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Cotton*, Bill (No. 22) intituled “An Act respecting Appointments to Boards and other Public Bodies.”

On the motion of the Hon. *Jos. Martin*, Bill (No. 23) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Power of Attorney Act.’”

On the motion of the Hon. *Jos. Martin*, Bill (No. 24) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Bills of Sale Act.’”

On the motion of the Hon. *Jos. Martin*, Bill (No. 25) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Partnership Act.’”

On the motion of Mr. *Helgesen*, Bill (No. 26) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Dentistry Act.’”

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Semlin*, Bill (No. 28) intituled “An Act relating to the Inspection of Steam Boilers.”

On the motion of Mr. *Kidd*, Bill (No. 27) intituled “An Act for the eradication of and to prevent the spreading of Noxious Weeds,” was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be read a second time on Monday next.

On the motion of Mr. *J. M. Martin*, seconded by Mr. *R. Smith*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return shewing what companies required by their charters to give security for bona fide expenditure in surveys and construction within a specified time, have given such security.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return showing the number of Chinese and Japanese naturalized in the Province of British Columbia for each year since 1890, inclusive.

On the motion of the Hon. the Minister of Finance, seconded by the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, it was *Resolved*,—

That the Public Accounts for the fiscal year 1897-98, which were presented to this House on the 18th instant, be referred to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Bill (No. 12) intituled “An Act to Incorporate the Ashcroft Water, Electric and Improvement Company,” was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 8) intituled “An Act respecting the Registration of Real Property in British Columbia,” was committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

On the motion of Mr. *Helmcken*, Private Bill (No. 29) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Kootenay and North-West Railway Company's Act, 1898,' and to consolidate and amend certain other Acts," was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Railway Committee.

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

And then the House adjourned at 3:30 o'clock, P. M.

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Thursday, 26th January, 1899.

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TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

Mr. *Deane* presented a Petition from *M. C. Winn* and others, barbers of the *City of Victoria*, re Sunday closing.

Received and *Ordered* to be printed.

Mr. *Higgins* presented the Seventh Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows :

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
26th January, 1899.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That Petition No. 14, the Petition of the Atlin Southern Railway for leave to present a Petition for the construction of a line of railway from Log Cabin to a point near the Taku Arm of Tagish Lake, and thence to Telegraph Creek, has been considered.

Your Committee recommend that the Company shall advertise forthwith for 14 days in the local papers of Victoria and Vancouver, and twice in the *British Columbia Gazette*. That each branch line proposed to be constructed by the Company shall not exceed 10 miles in length, and that a substantial guarantee in cash be deposited with the Government as security for the due prosecution of the whole work, should a charter be granted to the Company.

Your Committee further beg to recommend the suspension of the Rules, so as to enable the Petition to be presented subject to the foregoing conditions.

D. W. HIGGINS,  
*Chairman*.

The Report was received.

The Rules were suspended and the Report adopted.

On the motion of the Hon. the Minister of Finance, seconded by the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, it was *Resolved*,—

That the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, at the opening of the present session, be taken into consideration on Thursday next.

The Hon. Mr. *Cotton* presented a Statement of Special Warrants signed by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, together with the expenditure incurred thereon, between 28th March, 1898, and 26th January, 1899, required by the "Revenue Act," cap. 166, sec. 42.

Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act respecting the Registration of Real Property in British Columbia," was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

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Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act respecting Appointments to Boards and other Public Bodies," was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Power of Attorney Act,'" was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

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

To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 25) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Partnership Act,'" was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act relating to the Inspection of Steam Boilers," was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 12) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Ashcroft Water, Electric and Improvement Company," was committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the South Kootenay Railway Company," was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Atlin Short Line Railway and Navigation Company," was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had received the resignation of the Hon. *J. Fred Hume* as a Member representing the *Nelson Riding of West Kootenay* Electoral District.

*Ordered*, That the name of the Hon. *J. F. Hume* be dropped from the Mining Committee, and that the name of Mr. *Tisdall* be added to such Mining Committee.

*Ordered*, That the name of Hon. *C. A. Semlin* be dropped as a Member of the Public Accounts Committee, and the name of Mr. *Tisdall* be placed upon the list as a member of said Public Accounts Committee.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:25 o'clock, P. M.

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Friday, 27th January, 1899.

Two o'clock, P. M.

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

The following papers were presented :—

By the Hon. Mr. *Semlin*—Copies of all correspondence between the Dominion Government and the Provincial Government, touching the Resolution of this House passed on the 25th March, 1898, relative to the establishment of a Mint in this Province.

By the Hon. Mr. *Cotton*—A Return of all papers, correspondence, evidence and finding of the Judge, in connection with the Royal Commission of Inquiry appointed under the "Public Inquiries Act," September 15th, 1898.

By the Hon. Mr. *Semlin*—A Return of moneys received and paid by the Official Administrators of the Province, as required by section 13 of the "Official Administrators Act, 1890."

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

1. Under what authority was the Toronto and British Columbia Lumber Company, Ltd., granted timber leases No. 7 and No. 9, *Cowichan-Alberni District*, on 1st August, 1893, for the period of thirty years, when section 6 of "Land Act Amendment Act, 1892," enacts that timber leases shall not exceed twenty-one years?

2. Has the above named Company complied, in regard to lease No. 7, with the provisions of the said Act, which provides that a mill shall be built within two years?

3. Have the arrears of rent, due on the said leases No. 7 and No. 9 held by the said Company, and stated at \$17,748.85 in a Return to the House on 23rd March last, been paid, and, if so, on what date?

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

"1. Under authority of 51 Vict., sec. 54, chap. 66 (Consolidated Acts, 1888), and of an Order in Council approved on the 12th day of May, 1892. The applications for leases were all made prior to the enactment of the 'Land Act Amendment Act, 1892.'

"2. The Company has availed itself of the privilege conferred by section 7 of the 'Land Act Amendment Act, 1895,' of paying an annual rental of fifteen cents per acre in lieu of erecting a saw-mill.

"3. On the 9th June, 1898, the Company paid \$15,000, in satisfaction of arrears of rentals due on the leaseholds."

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Cotton*, Bill (No. 30) intituled "An Act to amend '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,'" was introduced and read a first time.

Second reading on Monday next.

Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act respecting the Registration of Real Property in British Columbia," was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again on Monday next.

Mr. *Kidd* presented the Second Report from the Printing Committee, as follows :—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,

January 27th, 1899.

MR. SPEAKER :

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

That the following papers were ordered to be printed :

1. Return of correspondence between His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and the late Premier, *re* the signing of special warrants and dismissal of his Ministers.

2. Return *re* railways.

THOMAS KIDD,  
Chairman.

The Report was received.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Cotton*, Bill (No. 31) intituled "An Act for the relief of the Municipal Corporation of the City of New Westminster," was introduced and read a first time.

Second reading on Monday next.

Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act respecting Appointments to Boards and other Public Bodies," was committed.

Bill reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered on Monday next.

Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Power of Attorney Act,'" was committed.

Reported complete with amendment.

Report to be considered on Monday next.

Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Bills of Sale Act,'" was committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered on Monday next.

Bill (No. 25) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Partnership Act,'" was committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

Third reading on Monday next.

Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act relating to the Inspection of Steam Boilers," was committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again on Monday next.

Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the South Kootenay Railway Company," was committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again on Monday next.

The Hon. Mr. *Cotton* presented a Return giving—

1. The names of all mines in the Province which have paid the tax on their outputs under the provisions of the Mineral Act.

2. The amounts so paid by each mine in each year since the Act came into force in May, 1896.

2. The value of each mine paying such tax.

4. The amount that said mines would have paid if they had been assessed as real property.

*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.