## **OUR OTTAWALETTER**

Some "Inside" Facts Concerning the Much Talked-of Yukon Railway Transaction.

The United States Powerless to Obstruct Canadian Passage of the Stikine River.

Some of the Capitalists Who First Offered to Build the Railway.

duced is now disappearing, on account of the additional information that has from time to time been submitted by the government to parliament. Indeed nearly all the objections have vanished, and the only ground left for attack is the large subsidy of 25,000 acres a mile, but when the opponents of the measure are asked to say how many acres they would give for the building of this road they refrained from answering the question.

Take away the land grant and the railway could not be built, because Eastern

Canada would not permit a cash subsidy, and the time has not yet arrived for the Canadian government going into railway building on its own account. The older erpvinces of Canada are of the opinion that the price of the road as well as the cost of the development of the Yukon sught to be taken out of that part of the In other words the territory ought to bear the expense of its own de-

The question of routes has been discussed at length and the administration has been emphatic in its policy that nothing but an all-Canadian route would satisfy the Dominion. Sir Charles Tupper has had no difficulty in supporting the Stikine route, and is strong in the expression of his views that the road should be built, so that food can be shipped into Dawson next fall, thereby preventing any starvation in the Yukon during the following winter.

termined to obstruct Canadian traffic at Wrangel at the mouth of the Stikine, where the coast steamers require to tranship to the river craft. Some ground is being furnished for this by the action of Senator Hansborough, who proposes at Washington not only to annul an international treaty but to deprive Can-ada of its rights and threat-ening to interfere with its do-mestic laws. The senator's bill provides for withholding bonding privileges from Canadian merchandise on the Stikine river until by Canadian legislation it railway policy of the administration, still eign powers the Canadian government has no expectation that anything of that kind will hap- ficed

Ottawa would be prepared to bring the matter before the British government and for doing this. Take in the first case the action of the United States government in respect to the Fortune Ray affective. 1878. In this case Newfoundland thought she had the right to make certain regula-tions which would have for their object the preservation of the fisheries. The United States had fishing rights under a treaty on the Newfoundland coast, which included Fortune Bay. The Newfoundland government insisted on enforcing their regulations and the United States fishermen refused to obey them; and ultimately by force destroyed the obstacles which were put in their way. Newfoundland brought the matter before Great Britain, and the home government de-eided in favor of the United States. The point in this case was that the Newfoundland government could not impede in any way by their regulations or otherwise that which was granted by treaty to another nation, as well as themselves Take again the Halifax fishery award. In this case the decision was against the United States, but the principle on which the question was decided was exactly the same. The United States government had certain treaty rights granted them under the treaty of 1818. These were changed in 1871. After 1871 the United States continued, for instance, to fish within the three-mile limit although

figures \$4,000,000, while a million dollars more went to Newfoundland in the way of damages. This showed that treaty rights when acquired must be preserve and that as long as Canada has granted to her the free navigation of the Stiking for commercial purposes that privilege will not be interfered with by the United States authorities unless for very good Of course, if interfered with, it will take time to obtain a settlement.

this privilege was taken away from them.

and finally the case was submitted to

continued doing so for some years

Canada got in roun

meantime navigation would be proceeding from Port Simpson, an all-Canadian port, by way of the Stikine, and Canada under such circumstances would be willing to southward to Port Simpson.

Correspondence presented to parliament shows that the government had consulted snows that the government had consulted with other parties before closing the bargain with Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann for the Yukon railway. Lord Charles Montague, H. Maitland Kersey, and Clarence H. Mackay, representing an English syndicate, made an offer to the government for the construction of a railway was construction of a railway over exactly the same route from Glenora to Teslin Lake. The offer is dated December 20, 1897. For a wagon road the company asked \$1,000 a mile as a subsidy, and \$6,000 a mile for a railway. This, too, was conditional on the govern-ment of British Columbia giving them another cash subsidy. Besides this the syndicate desired to obtain at certain oints along the Stikine river and Teslin lake blocks of 1,500 acres to erect and

maintain trading stores. The syndicate in addition said it would be prepared to build a road by the Dalton trail. On January 22nd H. Maitland Kersey wrote Mr. Sifton in reference to a conversa-tion he had with the minister of the interior stating that he was cabling Devon-shire House and Chatsworth about the matter and that he would not ask the government to wait on him longer than the Monday following. On January 23rd Mr, Kersey wrote Mr. Sifton saying that in view of the road having to be completed by September 1st, and that the offer was to be on the basis of a land grant the syndicate deemed it inadvisable to go on with the matter. It will be remembered that the contract with Mackenzie & Mann was signed on the 26th

of January.

Another offer was made the government by a Canadian and English syndicate, represented by J. Wesley Allison, of Montreal, to build a road from Dyea or Skagway right on to Dawson for a Ottawa, Feb. 18.—The House of Commons has had under consideration the Canadian Yukon railway bill all week.

Much of the opposition which was taken to the measure when it was first introduced is now disappearing, on account the Dalton trail if they got a subsider that the Rothschilds tendered for a road by the Dalton trail if they got a subsider miles square of land for each by the Dalton trail if they got a subsidy of 5,000 acres a mile.

An arrangement has been closed with

the Dominion government for establishing a bank at Dawson City in the Yukon.
The bank is to be a branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, and will not only be of great convenience to the miners but will materially aid the government in collecting the ten per cent. royalty. Gold will be accepted at the bank and drafts given to the miners on any bank in Canada for the amount of gold received, except ten per cent. royalty, which will be deducted and handed over to the government. An arrangement has also been made to give drafts on banks in San Francisco, Chicago and New York. The miners will not be charged any commission or expense in obtaining these drafts. The gold will be weighed at the bank and a draft given for the amount. It will be kept in vaults and conveyed By this arrangement the miners can walk away with their drafts in their pockets, which will be accepted at their face value all over Canada or in the cities mentioned in the United States. SLABTOWN.

## THE IMPERIAL HOUSE

A great deal has been imported into the Mr. Chamberlain Advocates a Bold debate about the United States being de Policy for Great Britain in Policy for Great Britain in West Africa.

> Michael Davitt Takes the Side of the United States Against England.

London, Feb. 24.-In the house of commons to-day in reply to a question as to the west African situation. Mr. Chamberlain said he expected a friendly is provided that there shall be no mono- and satisfactory settlement, but under poly in the means of transportation of passengers and goods going through Alaska to the Yukon, and also for transhipping fish in bond through Canadian observed, had not risen regarding the ports and over Canadian railways to the United States. There is nothing to prevent United States and Canada agreeing in the delimitation west of Niger. Speak-ning generally he would say that the comvent United States and Cauada agreeing to give up certain rights either may possess for others in return, but it is not Great Britain to adopt a more forward policy in the hinterlands of her African policy in the hinterlands of her African policy in the French standpoint anteed to both under an international he could only admire the French policy treaty, for no good purpose whatever. which had carved for France an enor-Customs regulations and legislative enactments are not permitted to override treaties. Treaties are not terminated or denounced in that way. So that while there is a great deal of talk among the politicians and the people here as to all also was united, and that while ready kinds of threatened attempts from Wash-ington to defeat the Canadian Yukon maintaining peaceful relations with forimportant British interests to be sacri-

Mr. Chamberlain said: "It is a lament-But should congress force the United
States executive to take any action which
would interfere with Canadian rights to
navigate the Stikine then the ministers at and the Gold Coast. Consequently decided to raise a frontier force under

> Mr. Labouchere's motion to reduce the colonial vote was then rejected by a vote of 224 against 27.
>
> During the discussion of supply Mr T. Gibson Bowles, Conservative member for King's Inn, complained as to the Behring sea seals. He described the commission as "unnecessary and unprac-

Mr. Geo. N. Curzon, under secretary of state for foreign affairs, replied that the United States government had constantly urged Great Britain to revise the Paris Great Britain had always re provided. plied that the question must be decided on the evidence of experts. An expert inquiry was then suggested. A commission was appointed and it was subsequently decided to continue the com-

Mr. Michael Davitt, anti-Parnellite nember for South Mayo, said he thought the United States had been badly treat-ed by England and not England by the United States.

Mr. Sidney Buxton, radical member for Poplar (Tower Hamlets), questioned government as to the progress of the Guiana boundaries arbitration. Mr. Curzon, replying, called attention to the length of time necessary for delivering the cases, and said he could not

promise an early settlement.

London, Feb. 25.—The morning newspapers and all parties concerned raise a lain's scheme, which begins with the construction of Rhodesia into a crown colony. The arrangement is regarded as reassuring for the Transvaal, since the British government is now responsible for any attack upon the Transvall. The scheme does not affect northern Rhodesia, which is left for future consideration.

It is not often that a physician recom mends a patent medicine; when he does, you may know that it is a good one. Dr. J. P. Cleveland, Glasgow, foot any bill, no matter how great, for a writes: "I have used Chamberlain's railway from Telegraph Creek running Cholic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy in my practice, and it has proven to be an excellent remedy where a thorough course of medicine had failed with me. I recommend it to my patients every time for colic and diarrhoea." Many other progressive physicians recommend and use this remedy, because it always cures and cures quickly. Get a bottle and you will have an excellent doctor in the house for all bowel complaints, both for children and adults. For sale by Henderson Bros., wholesale

igents, Victoria and Vancouver. A woman who is weak, nervous and sleepless, and who has cold hands and feet, cannot act and feel like a well person. Carter's Iron Pills equalize the circulation, LOVE-MAKING IN PUBLIC.

It is evident from her letter to the February Ladies' Home Journal, that Miss Lilian Bell finds much in Paris to interest and amuse her. Among other things that are rather novel to an American, "one sees," she writes, "the comical sight of a French bride and bridegroom, in all the glory of their bridal array-white satin, veil and orange blossomsdriving through the streets in open cabs, and hugging and kissing each other with an unctious freedom which is apt to throw a conservative American into a spasm of laughter. Indeed, the frank and candid way that love making goes on in public among the lower classes is so amazing that at first you think you never this world will become accustomed to but you get accustomed to a great strange sights in Paris. If a kiss explodes with unusual violence in a cab near mine it sometimes scares the horse, but it no longer disturbs me in the least. My nervousness over that sort of thing has entirely worn off."

## LILLOOET'S RICHNESS

Something Like a Boom Now on in the Bridge River and Other Districts.

Mining Experts Are Delighted With the Fine Showing Made by the Claims.

No one who has not paid this flourishing little town a visit recently can imagine the hustle and excitement that is prevalent here now that spring is approaching. By every mail inquiries come from moneyed men about the bridge river district, and every day parties of miners are entering the town, whilst numbers of men are leaving with their supplies for the Bridge river

No one here talks of going to the Klondike. We have the richest goldbearing quartz ledges ever discovered in British Columbia, and a climate that makes outdoor work possible and enjoyable the whole year round.

Mr. K. F. Gibson, superintendent of the Alpha Bell Gold Quartz Mining Co., returned from the Ida May mineral

group on Bridge river last week and brought down with him 50 pounds of quartz for a mill test, and also some splendid specimens of gold bearing quartz. Work has been continuously run all the winter on these claims, ten men being at work the whole winter The main tunnel is now in 100 feet, and altogether there is about 300 feet of tunneling run. The samples of rock brought down were taken from 100 feet inside the tunnel and the richness of the quartz equals anything previously struck on the outside croppings. The ledge has been stripped for over 200 feet and free gold has been found all along the surface.

Mr. Arthur Noel is making preparations to take in a large number of recommendations.

tions to take in a large number of men to work on the Bend D'or group. From reports received by him from the foreman who has superintended the work all winter, this group of claims is fully keeping up the richness of the first strike. Two small quartz mills have already been ordered by the owners, and will be packed in at the earliest moment

Mr. Smith, the mining engineer from Vancouver, has taken a large number men and a quantity of provisions to Forty Thieves group, situated on the south fork of Bridge river. The diffi-culties of the winter journey heavily handicapped him at the start, but his in-domitable pluck and energy have over-come all difficulties.

The necessity for the immediate con-ruction of a road to the south fork of Bridge river has been most seriously im-pressed upon our M.P.P., after permission was given by him to construct bridges over Tyanchton and Gun creeks, and it is hoped that the contractors will get their work speedily accomplished. The road, however, is of paramount importance; that it will cost money is undoubted, but the richness of the camp will justify the outlay as well the revenue that is derived from this section of the Lillooet district. A small steamer that has just arrived rom the coast will run between the

ooet end of Seaton Lake and the Mis-ion. This will be a great convenience miners. Our energetic townsman, Mr. Dunlop. has a store in course of construction on Tyanchton creek. Agood hotel and boardng house are badly wanted, and unubtedly more stores will be needed in the neighborhood of Cadwallader creek. A telephone or telegraph line from this camp to Lillooet will be energetically

agitated for this summer. A large amount of development work has been done on claims on Cayuash creek and neighborhood this fall and winter. Confidence in the future of the creek is unbiased. Superintendent Rives reports everything as most satisfactory

reports everything as most satisfactory at the Golden Cache mines.

Mr. J. J. Palmer, of Toronto, is in town. He is interested in a valuable group of claims on Seaton Lake. A contract for a 40 foot tunnel has just been completed on these claims. The quality of the work and the way in which the of the rock and the way in which the work was performed by Mr. Sparrow (the contractor)have given Mr. Palmer great satisfaction. Further development work will be done on these claims in the spring. Mr. Palmer leaves here or Toronto to-morrow. He is highly delighted with the prospects of the camp, and it is his intention to make an early return here. The weather is beautifully faild, and the snow is fast disappearing. The Baby Covered With Eczema and

Mrs. Jas. Brown, of Molesworth, Ont., tells how her boy (eight months old) was cared of torturing eczema. Mothers whose children are afflicted our write her regarding the great cure, Dr. Chase's Ointment. Her child was afflicted from birth, and three boxes of Dr. Chase's Cintment cured him.

Cured by Dr. Chase.

To be free from sick headache, billous-ness constipation, etc., use Carter's Little Liver Pills. Strictly vegetable. They gent-ly stimulate the liver and free the stomach from bile.

Mr. F. C. Helbig, a prominent druggist of Lynchville, Va., says: "One of our citizens was cured of rheumatism of two years' standing by one bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. This liniment is famous for its cures of rheumatism; thousands have been delighted with the prompt relief which it affords." For sale by Henderson Bros, wholesale agents, Victoria and Vancouver.

ALK your grocer for

For Table and Dairy, Purest and Best

## PROVINCIAL HOUSE

The Government Embarked on a Campaign of Dogged Obstruction to Good Measures.

Anything Proposed by the Opposition for Benefit of the Country is Good Enough to Kill.

A Measure Asking for a Pair Re distribution is Defeatedby the Government.

The Government's Extraordinary Attitude on the Mortgage Tax Question Exposed.

Victoria, Feb. 23rd. The speaker took the chair at two o'clock. Prayers were offered by the Rev. A. B. Winchester. The debate upon the third clause of

the address was resumed by Mr. Sword. Turning to the public accounts as presented, he spoke of the increase in the receipts over last year as not being more than might have been expected, corsidering that some of the old arrears were probably included in the amounts. He remarked that he would like to call the formers of the call the call the formers of the call the the finance minister's attention to the fact that accounts as kept made no distinction between the arrears and the year's revenue proper, and he that the provincial secretary would con-sult with the house before repeating the muddle he had already made of the re-Mr. Ke'lie moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Hume, that clause three be struck out. He said that there was no reason for gratification in the un-

Mr. Semlin moved, seconded by Mr.

milliams, to amend this clause by adding the following words: "and we trust that such measure will justify existing inequalities in the representation, without increasing the present number of members, and will provide for equal representation, to constitute a constitute and provided in the representation of the form.

Nays:—Messieurs Huff, Mutter, Baker, Turner, Martin, Rithet, Adams, Booth, Stondart, Walkem, Pooley, Eberts, Bryden, Hunter, McGregor—15.

The remaining clauses were read a second time and put through the usual form. presentation to constituencies similarly situated." In noving the amendment described by the said he thought it would be well to he said he thought it would be well to and the mover and seconder was then have a discussion upon this subject. He made, and the address was then reported reminded the house that there was a from the committee. striking resemblance in the remarks of the government upon the subject at the present time, and the remarks made by requirements for the province for some time to come. There were 33 members and between 30,000 and 40,000 votters. While it was expected that a fairer system of representation would be arranged, there would be no necessity upon this account to increase the number of members in the legislature. Hon. Mr Turner said that the governly as possible throughout the province. He said he could not agree with Mr.

rect and fair to every district in the Mr. Forster said that what the peoa just measure now because the population was increasing. This contention question you asked me I did not underamounted to the statement that so long stand it so. I do not call the Statist a

should be a final one, ceived with cries of "No."

far in assuming that any measure that | Hop. Mr. Pooley said that he intended would be brought down to the house would not be just. (This was received The speaker said that he considered

the amendment relative and in order. Mr. Sword, in support of the amend-ment said that it was evident that Mr. which a person could contract himself.

unjust that the redistribution measure of 1894. That bill the premier had stated was, in his opinion, as fair as could be at the time—almost perfect. Mr. Sword hoped that the house would not be asked to take any such bill under consideration again. The discrepancies in the approximation that it is the approximation of the consideration of the property of the prope in the representation which existed in the measure of 1894 had increased. Even at the time of the last election the discrepancies were such that no one would attempt to say that it was a fair measure of representation. What he measure of representation. What he wished to see was the adoption of an equitable system by the government. If leader of the government wished to do what was fair and right he accept the suggestion contained in the amendment and endeavor to make his amendment and endeavor to make his bill correspond. If, then, the amendment commended itself to the whole house it would simplify the passage of the bill through the house. Mr. Sword then commented upon the fact that the lead-er of the government had not stated when the redistribution bill would be brought down. The matter of redistribrought down. The matter of redistribution was in the opinion of Mr. Sword of the greatest importance and before any other important business was taken up the government should bring worth considering, and that was that the matter before the house and have it disposed of. Before the house was asked to take up any other measure it property u should know what it had to expect from property. the government in regard to the question of redistribution. He hoped to receive the distinct pledge that the redistribution bill world be brought down before any other matter of importance.

Dr. Walkem took an objection to the amendment on the ground that due notice had not been given. This provided discussion on the point of order by Messrs. Cotton, Semlin, Sword and Forster, which terminated by the speaker declaring the amendment in order.

The amendment was put and lost on the folowing division:
Yeas-Messrs. Sword, Kennedy, Hume, Forster, Macpherson, Kidd, Vedder, Williams, Semlin, Cotton, Graham, Kellie,-12.

Nays-Messrs. Huff, Smith, Hel-mcken, Turner, Baker, Martin, Rithet, Adams, Booth, Stoldart, Walkem, Pool-ey, Eberts, Bryden, Rogers, Hunter, Braden, McGregor-18.

be struck out. He said that there was no reason for gratification in the unequal manner in which the revenue of the province had been raised. He referred again to the injustice that was being put upon the people and industry of West Kootenay. The amendment to strike out the clause was defeated on a motion of 7 to 23.

The next three clauses were passed without debate, but upon clause twelve being reached Mr. Kennedy moved the following amendment: "And we trust that for the benefit of the province and all concerned in the lumber business, some measure providing for log-scaling by the government will be laid before us." Mr. Kennedy made a vigorous speech in support of the amendment, but it was defeated on the following division: Yeas: Messieurs! Sword, Kennedy, thume, Forster, Macpherson, Kidd, Vedder, Williams, Semlin, Cotton, Graham, tricts." Nays:-Messieurs Huff, Mutter, Baker

Questions of Privilege. present time, and the remarks made by the members of the government upon every other occasion when a redistribution bill had been introduced. The members of the government always assured the house that the measure before the house was not a final measure—that it was memely a tentative measure. He was memely a tentative measure. He was memely a tentative measure, they have the government should that the people of Nanaimo were in favor Mr. Forster rose to a question. thought that the government should that the people of Nanaimo were in favor make a departure from what appeared of the land grant to the E. & N. railway to be the custom and this time adopt company, and his (Forster's denial of some general system which could be the same was not published. The facts some general system which could be adapted to the changing conditions. As were that the people of Nanaimo had far as the number of members in the petitioned against the grant and the petitiones was concerned, he thought that tion was at the present time in the cust the number was sufficient to meet the the explanation for the purpose of referring to Dr. Walkem, but for the purpose of putting the people of Nanaimo right before the house. not remember having promised to remove the tax. He had said many times

Hon. Mr. Turner rose to a question privilege respecting the report of his statement upon the London Statist. reported that he did not say that the Statist was a scurrilous paper. He stated Hon. Mr Turner said that the government fully appreciated the importance that there were some scurrilous papers of the cubicot and would give the matter its most careful consideration so rilous because they treated in a scurrilous as to adjust the representation as fairas to adjust the representation as fairly as possible throughout the province,
He said he could not agree with Mr.
Semlin in that the present measure

The present measure

The present that the present that the present measure

The present The present to the London papers. He referred to the Comments of the News-Advertiser and the Times upon this statement of his own (This was re- upon this matter. The premier said that ceived with cries of "No.") The premhe did not know very much about the
ier continued that in his opinion the
Statist. He did know that if the paper
redistribution measure of 1894 was corwas given an advertisement and paid enough for it, the Statist would give the

air to every district in the enough for it, the control of the con Mr. Forster said that what the peomember addressing the house when the wanted was a just redistribution of motion caem up. He said that he had ple wanted was a just redistribution of the seats, and that whenever such rearrangement became unjust or unfair London Statist a scurrilous paper. The finance premier, "It is well known as such."

amounted to the statement that so have as there was a possibility of any increase in population, there would be no crease in population, there would be no hon, gentleman's question. Such a Hon. Mr. Turner also denied that he consideration of the adas there was a possible farmer would be no crease in population, there would be no fair me-sure of representation. Such a contention was utterly absurd. It would look better for the government to come right out and say that it did not be interred from the Colonist report.

When Cotton then moved the following want to give any fair measure of remaining the following minister had resolution: "That in the opinion of this country to the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this country to the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this country to the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this country to the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this country to the following resolution: "That in the opinion of the same that the following resolution: "That in the opinion of the same that the following resolution: "That in the opinion of the same that the following resolution: "That in the opinion of the same that the following resolution is the following resolution to the following resolution in the following resolution is the following resolution to t scurrilous paper. I had mistaken the want to give any fair measure of representation. The finance mirister had stated that in his opinion the redistribution measure was as fair as it could be. This measure gave Esquimalt, injustice." In support of the resolution present system of taxing mortgages is an be. This measure gave Esquimalt, injustice." In support of the resolution with 450 voters two representatives, although the constituency was only three the government first began to enforce the miles from Victoria. In his own distax Premier Robson admitted that there though the constituency was only miles from Victoria. In his own district there was 1,130 voters, but they was a peculiar grievousness committed with such a tax which in his opinion called for its removal. This was in were given but one member. Did the finance minister say that was fair? Such was the condition of things that obtained all over the province. Would the house say that it was just. He did not think any man of common sense would the say so. Such, however, was what the bouse had to expect the country would premier had also expressed the opinion house had to expect the country would premier had also expressed the have to submit to for the next four that the peculiar impost should be remyears, and so long as Premier Turner edied. The house had been told that the remained in power. Fremier Turner remained in power. Frewenue was steadily increasing and there was therefore no reason for continuing not said that the government would not give a fair measure. He said that he that in dealing with any detail in connective a fair measure. revenue was steadily increasing and there He said that he was sure had merely stated that the government could not bring in a final measure. He had merely attacked what Mr. Semlin had said about a final measure. He that in ueaning with any detail in connection with the reduction in the taxation this peculiar tax should be the one to receive consideration. The working of the tax had shown that the man who was said that the government proposed to obliged to borrow money upon his progive as fair a bill as possible at the pre- perty was obliged to pay more taxes than the man who was not obliged to borrow. Semlin explained that he had not There could be no question but that the asked for a final measure, but that the man who had a mortgage upon his farm asked for a nnal measure, but that the government would adopt some system upon which the population could be accorded representation uniformly all over the province.

man who had a mortgage upon his taking or property paid taxes not only upon the value of the property but the amount of the mortgage as well. Such, he held, was not reasonable or fair. The man who was Mr. Booth entered an objection to the manner in which the amendment was should be picked out for still more tax-offered. He thought that it went too ation.

to vote against the resolution. He held that the mortgagor was not obliged to pay the tax, and therefore there was no double taxation. If the contention of Mr. Cotton was correct every tax would ment said that it was evident that Mr. Booth was very sensitive and held himself responsible for the shortcomings of the government. With respect to Mr. Booth's contention. Mr. Sword said that he did not think any member of the house could expect the government to bring down any bill more flagrantly which a person could contract himself, into paying. The taxes upon water, land, municipal assessments, which a person to describe the secure the repeal of this tax. It was generally known that the tax was a double tax and it had eaused universal dissatisfaction among the farmers. So would be double taxation. If such a principle were admitted it would be the end of taxation in the province. The tax upon mortgages was one which the bor-

rower need not pay but which he contract himself into paying. H that the attempt to have the tax ed was an attempt to handicap the tax was repealed they could bor money for less interest. This would be the case, as the people loaning money would charge more interest. contention of Mr. Cotton was a fall Mr. Sword asked whether he had derstood the president of the council

Hon. Mr. Pooley then repeated that there was no double taxation. The tax there was no double taxation. The tax there was no double taxation. sometimes the mortgagor when he rowed the money undertook to pay the

tax. Mr. Sword then showed that there was a double tax under the mortgage tax. The mortgagee held an interest in pro perty to the amount of his mortgage, but when the tax collector came around taxes were collected from the mortgagor for the full amount of the property value. There was no provision for the relief of the borrower from taxation upon his property to the amount of his mortgage. There was another poin mortgage. There was another point worth considering, and that was that property upon which it ws loaned is resproperty. The government collected the set in their views as Hon. Mr. Pooley appeared to be.
Hon. Col. Baker said that Mr. Sword

had failed to show that there was any double taxation. The farmer was taxed upon the real property and the mortgages upon the money loaned upon the security of real property. It was the same in the case of the man who owned a store who was taxed upon his real property and upon the personal property in the store as well. (Laughter.) It was a real property tax and a personal property tax, and he could not see that thare was any double taxation. The mortgagor often had to pay but he did not legally have to pay. The government could not pass any law to prevent people from contracting themselves into debt. The tax produced \$80,000. If it was abolished where was the money to come from? Would the honorable gentlemen opposite put it upon the land? Mr. Williams said it was evident that

the government members were lenders and not borrowers. There could be no doubt but that nearly every man who borrowed money was obliged to contract himself into the payment of the tax. It did not make any difference whether i was the law or not. The circumstance was the law or not. The circumstances were such that the borrower could not get the money unless he agreed to pay the tax. In most mortgages there was a clause which obligated the borrower to pay the tax. The effect of the government of the covernment of the government of the covernment of the cover ment tax upon mortgages resulted in the borrower being obliged to pay the tax. Mr Williams said that it was a back-ward step for the government to insist upon the mortgage tax. He then read the resolution which had been passed last session by a vote of 20 to 4, which stated that in the opinion of the house the mortgage tax "bearing unduly upon different members of the community." The four votes against the resolution Messrs. Turner, Martin, Rithet and Stoddard. In reply to the query of Col. Baker as to where the revenue was to come from if the tax was repealed, Mr. Williams said there was an excess of revenue over the estimates for the past year of \$200,000. Such being the case the government could surely do away with the mortgage tax. If the members of the cabinet could not adjust matters

of the cabinet could not adjust matters so as to do away with so unjust a tax they were not fitted to occupy the treasury benches.

Mr. Graham made a strong speech against the tax. He held that the amount of the mortgaged indebtedness of real estate should be deducted from the value of the presents in the same of the presents.

Hon. Mr. Turner said that he could

that it was probably a hardship to the borrower, but all other taxes were a

hardship to those who had to pay them. He had not changed this opinion. He denied that there was any double tax, The borrower did not have to pay the tax. The government assessed him upon his real property, and the mortgagee upon the personal property in the mortgage. If the borrower paid the tax it was because he contracted himself into paying it. He said that money would fetch its value. If the tax was removed the lender would receive the same interest as he did at present, plus the amount of the tax. If the tax was one-half of one per cent. and it was removed, the lender would increase the rate of interest to the present rate, which included the tax. He said that if it were possible to fix it so that the borrower would no the tax he would be glad to do so. Mr. Forster said that it could be illustrated in a simple manner that the tax was a double tax. If one man had \$4,000 worth of land and another had \$1,000 in cash, there would be taxable property of but \$5,000. If the man with the \$1,000 cash purchased the \$4,000 worth of property, paid his \$1,000 in cash and gave a mortgage for the other \$3,000, there was under the mortgage tax a taxable value of \$8,000. The purchase tax at taxable value of \$8,000. chaser was taxed \$4,000, the value of the property, the seller was taxed upon the \$1,000 he received in part payment, and the mortgage was taxed for \$3,000. By the transaction the taxable value wa increased just \$3,000, the amount of the ortgage. Reverse the case. One man had \$4,000 worth of merchandise and another had \$1,000 in cash. As in the first instance there was a taxable value of \$5,000. The man with the \$1,000 buys the \$4,000 worth of goods, pays \$1,000 on account and owes the balance \$3,000. Upon these goods the purchaser is taxed just\$1,000, and the trader who old the goods is taxed the balance of \$3.000, as well as the \$1.000 he had re ceived on account. There was, therefore, at the close of the transaction the same taxable value as at first, while in th case of the land the taxable value had increased \$3,000, or the amount of the mortgage. Mr. Forster denied the state ment that interest charged would be in-creased if the tax was removed from mortgages. He held that common sense dictated that the interest charge would be just so much lower. Suppose the tax had been three per cent. he would like to know whether the finance minister would say that in the event of such a tax h removed that interest charge would be advanced that amount. Mr. Forster ridiculed the statement that the farmers had anything to fear from the removal of the tax...
Mr. Vedder made a speech in favor of the repeal of the tax. He said it was a

tax upon what a man did not own. He thought that the finance minister was mistaken in saying that the rate of in-terest would be advanced if the tax was removed. At present there could be no doubt but that the borrower paid the tax. It bore unduly upon the poor and pover ty was hard enough to bear without tax-ing it. He said that the farmers of New Westminster district were very anxious to secure the repeal of this tax It was

that it would look better if the ment would just find the property in the man than the man than the man than the man the government's policy in the seemed to be to get a man the man then cinch him. He hope government would devise some relieve the overburdened borroman than the striking of the man than the striking of the man than the striking of the ment would leave the overburdened the major Mutter moved the striking of the ment would be striking to the ment would be striked to the ment would b Major Mutter moved amendment: by striking words after "House" and place thereof the following: "

place thereof the following: The place thereof the following: The property tax on moneys include gages and taxed to the mortga double taxation."

Mr. Sword raised the quest whether the amendment was rethe debate was adjourned peruling of the speaker.

Mr. Helmcken moved the following. Mr. Helmcken moved the fol solution, seconded by Mr. "Whereas a World's Fair is in Paris, France, in the year whereas it would be in the inter-province of British Columbia ete a collection as possible plete a conection as possible of ducts and resources of the could be procured to be for-lue time to such fair: Be it the folved, That this house would fully urge upon the governm province of British Columbia early consideration the desi he province being properly r in all branches of its varied re the said fair.

The assent of the crown was the resolution but Mr. Semlin jection on a point of order, sa the resolution should have co

by message.
The speaker's ruling was as Semlin and the resolution was Victoria. The speaker took the chair a Prayers were offered by

Winchester. Hon. Colonel Baker presente of all correspondence between i parties, in connection with the of Campbell Creek school. Mr. Hunter presented the seventh reports from the bills committee: That the orders in connection with the u tioned petitions have been com No. 2—The petition of the East Valley Railway Company. No petition of the Skeena River an Railway Company. No. 13—The of the British Columbia Gravels Dredge Mining Corpora reamble proved of bill (No. 'An Act to Incorporate the Tramway and Electric Comp

submit the same herewith wi ments. The Public Accounts Mr. Hunter presented the from the public accounts com follows: Your select standing on public accounts beg leave to follows: That they have the submit the following staten Statement of accounts of the p British Columbia with the van as at 10th February, inst., sho on hand at that date, with ex ote attached

2. Accounts of Shuswap and railway, and of Nakusp and S way, as at 31st December, 189 3. Accounts of parliament b 31st January, 1898, showing ments on construction to be total payments on furniture, Total payments, \$862,155.69. Note 1.—The payments to er. 1897, on account of the Slocan railway amount to the receipts amount to \$168.19 Note 2 .- The payments to er. 1897, on behalf of the S Okanagan railway amount the receipts, \$221,713.93.

Return showing balances of the cash on hand at treasury and of agents, 10th February, 1898: ount due Bank of B hand at treasury and hands of agents ...... Note.-The cause of the tem

raft at the bank, as shown about counted for from the fact of expenditure from 1st July to date 078,261, as against the sum vote mates for whole year, viz.: \$1. This large proportion of the act diture for the period, in compathe amount voted for the the result of carrying out tice of expending the approprial the branches of publiduring the first six months fiscal year; in support of this, a of actual expenditure to date an mated expenditure for the year i appended. On the other hand, penditure from 1st July to dat On the other hand seen that the greater portion of has yet to come in, from the assessed taxes, estimated at \$ being payable until the latter fiscal year, and have therefore received in addition to the due of all other revenue as estimate

Expenditure to 31st Januar Expenditure to 31st Jan., 1898 Public debt ...\$ 129,946 87 75,521 98 78,629 60 Justice (salaries) 2,806 00 54,451 92 egislation lic Institutions Hospitals & Chari

44,748 18 than salaries) ... Education Transport 142,034 51 7,445 11 24 25 10,377 69 Works and Build-97,631 29 overnment House Roads, Streets and 266,101 74

Bridges 89,347 20 Expen. as bro't to account at treas Expen. by agents since 1st Jan., not yet brought to account 1,032,261 32 46,000 00

1,078,261 32 Statement showing payments unt of construction and furni w parliament buildings up to y. 1898; otal payments on construction accounts ...
otal payment on furniture &

Dr. Walkem rose to a questi ege and asked for what reas orters had been excluded

The speaker explained that had been drafted by the com hat it was competent for ar to move an amendment. o move an amendment.

Mr. Booth suggested that it for which should come before mittee and not before the hous.

Col. Baker rose to a questiclege upon the remarks of Mr. the effect that the provincial flad made a muddle of the under the water clauses consoli under the water clauses consolided that the hor had not shown that the provintary had made any muddle. To one of the bold and bald which Mr. Sword was accumake in the house. hake in the house. The regu er the act were made by the nd not by the provincial se hough his name was appen

gulations. Mr. Sword said that in