

## VANCOUVER'S PROBLEM

**Whether or Not It Would Pay to  
Exempt the C.P.R. From Muni-  
cinal Taxation.**

**Suggestion That the Big Company  
Will Control the Victoria &  
Eastern Scheme.**

VANCOUVER, Oct. 20.—(Special)—The interview between Sir Wm. Van Horne and the city council and board of trade deputations is here the chief topic of discussion. Much satisfaction is, of course, felt over the promise of the institution next year from Vancouver and Victoria of "absolutely the best rail and steamship service to the Yukon." On the other hand, there is strong difference of opinion as to the determined attitude assumed by the head of the C.P.R. in

regard to the city's future action in the matter of taxation. It is noted that Sir John Gault, in his report, has pointed out the beauty of several proposed C.P.R. works at Vancouver would be largely dependent on the attitude of the council and the municipal electorate towards the company.

Specialty significant also is considered the fact that the C.P.R. has been advised by the C. P. R. Co. that the Kootenai, Penticton, Nanaimo and Similkameen country and railroad opportunities, are well worth considering, and that his company would consequently regard as hostile action any attempt to acquire the C.P.R. lines. He also said the Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern Railroad Co. in unnecessary alliance with railroad interests to the South and West, and that the company's position of declaration, coupled with the significant fact that Messrs. Mann and Mackenzie, who are the principal shareholders in the Coast-Kootenay project, have been in the past intimately associated with C. P. R. enterprise and are quite

to a very general surmise in Vancouver that the C. P. R. has little to fear in the way of opposition from the present government. It is not only a surmise, but it is likely enough—though it would be impolitic for them to disclose the facts—that an understanding exists between the railway and the present government and the C. P. R.

Much regret is felt here that Sir Wm. Van Horne can at present hold out no prospect of any relaxation of the excessive taxation of the company, land, or other property in the city. It is known that if the property be over valued, as alleged, the present line with city property in general, as well as the city property in person and a transitory fall in realty values. If therefore, under present conditions of equalized taxation, the assessment of the city property is only one-half that of other city property and the city rate raised proportionately in order to meet necessary municipal expenditure, the city will be able to pay only one-half by the company. But it is fairly certain that Sir William really recognizes this, and in speaking as he did of the present situation, he was only indirectly laying the way for a demand, al-

ready had formulated that in return for services rendered and for the employment of local labour, development of Vancouver, there shall be passed by the city council and the by-laws of the city, a measure providing for a measure of partial further exemption from the taxable C.P.R. property from local taxation. Such a proposal would, under ordinary circumstances, be a subject of ratification by the electorate, but it is possible that, urged by such special inducements as the opportunity—through the C.P.R. to acquire the right to the power capturing a good share of the Yukon trade, the offer of the company to build new station offices and warehouses, and also to build a new wharfage, a sufficient majority of the citizens may be got to endorse the measure by a vote of the council to the C.P.R. This and the music hall liquor license issue will probably constitute two big questions, to be decided by the voters of the city, at the coming municipal elections.

**Bishop Perrin Returns From Visiting the Heart of the Empire.**

His lordship the Bishop of Columbia returned to Victoria last evening from a visit to England, upon which, accompanied by his sister, he departed last May. Bishop Perrin was particularly pleased with the ceremonies which formed part of the Jubilee celebration, at which he says the visitors from the colonies, and especially those from Canada, were right royally treated. The gathering of Anglican bishops from all

parts of the Motherland and the colonies in itself conveyed an impression of the magnitude of the Empire. The bishops were treated with royal consideration. During the Jubilee procession they were all given places on the steps of St. Paul's cathedral, and the whole body was received by the Queen at Windsor.

Turning to the Lambeth conference itself, his lordship says that it was not to be judged merely by the resolutions made public through the press, as the published reports conveyed no idea of the importance of the discussions carried on by the body. The topics most dis-

The several colonial churches of Canada, Australia and other parts of the Empire maintained their independence, and there was no effort on the part of the Archbishop of Canterbury to take the part of a pope.

The American bishops present united with their brethren in enthusiastically supporting arbitration for the settlement of international as well of social difficulties.

Bishop Perrin was greatly struck with

the present Archbishop of Canterbury who, as president of the conference, in spite of his 75 years, managed the assembly in a wonderfully able manner.

**SUAKIM, Egypt, Oct. 19.**—The auxiliary cruiser *Kostroma*, belonging to the Russian volunteer fleet, is aground on the Elba reef. Assistance has been sent to her.