LIEUT.-GOVERNOR PROROGUES HOUSE

Business of Session Finished in Quick Order Thursday Afternoon

WITHHOLDS ASSENT TO ONE BILL

Mr. Bowser's Measure to Restrict Immigration Fails to Meet With His Honor's Approval

After a session lasting about seven weeks the provincial legislature was prorogued by His Honor the Lieut.-Governor on Thursday afternoon. The closing sitting was attended by the customary formalities but without the enthusiasm with which such an event is usually marked. This is attributed to the fact that the majority of the members expected that the end would come on Wednesday night, had made their arrangements to leave in accordance with that belief, and, consequently, were so inconvenienced as a result of the delay that their spirits were not sufficiently high to conduce to what might be considered a fitting finale to their labors. The legislators, however, did not leave their desks in silence. Immediately the Lieut.-Governor had left the chair, having given his assent to the bills which had passed through the house, the provincial secretary read the formal announcement of prorogation and the members, led by Acting Premier Tatlow, joined in three hearty cheers in honor of His Majesty, King Edward the VII.

Many Absent

When the house assembled at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon it was noticed that the majority of the members' chairs were without occupants. For about a week before the business was actually finished there had been rumors and counter rumors that the legislature would prorogue in one or two days at the outside. This appeared to unsettle many of the representatives of the people. They were anxious to return to their respective businesses and becoming weary of the obstructionist tactics so persistently pursued by J. A. Macdonald, John Oliver and Stuart Henderson, the leading members of the opposition, they packed up their goods and chattels and hied themselves away from the capital.

Depleted Following

The major portion of the Liberal representation backed up their leaders very creditably. But it is a noteworthy fact that even they became wearied of the stubborn effort made by the member for Delta to block the passage of the amendments to the *Land Act* on third reading on Wednesday night, when everybody was not only looking forward to being able to depart, but was so sure of the order paper being cleared that tickets had been purchased for passage that morning for the mainland by the steamer Princess Victoria. On that account they decided to leave without seeing the prorogation and yesterday Messrs. Macdonald and Henderson found themselves with a depleted handful of followers. Even "Honest John" had disappeared.

The Proceedings

Rev. T. W. Gladstone read prayers on the opening of the proceedings yesterday. Following this the adjourned debate on the third reading an "An Act to Amend the Land Act" was considered. Before any remarks were made by the members, Speaker Eberts announced that he would read his decision on the point of order which had been raised by Mr. Oliver at the sitting of the previous night. The contention of the member for Delta was that as an amendment to the bill had been introduced in committee dealing with the disposition of public lands, it would be necessary that it should be brought down by message from the Lieut.-Governor. The speaker overruled the objection. His judgment, in verbatim form, follows:

"Bill 37, An Act to Amend the Land Act. On the third reading of this bill a point of order has been raised that Section 10 of the bill now before the house for the third reading differs so much from the section as introduced by message that it is out of order, inasmuch as the section as amended should have been introduced by message.

"Section 10 of the Land Act as introduced contains a proviso that the section shall not apply to town lots and suburban lands sold by public auction before or after the passage of the section. Section 10 containing a reservation to the crown of one fourth of all town sites.

"In committee the proviso of section 10 so introduced by message was altered whereby instead of the absolute exemption of all town lots and suburban lands from the burden of the reservation with or without the consent of the Lieut.-Governor in Council, the Lieut.-Governor in Council became authorized to relieve such lands from such reservation. The particular amendment further specifies particular lands as exempt from the reservation, which particular lands were sold by the crown at public auction before the introduction of section 10. In other words the section as introduced provided a general exemption of all lands sold by public auction absolutely; the amendment provides for all lands sold by public auction by the crown contingent upon the Lieut.-Governor in Council so providing.

"The specific mention in the amended section of particular lands as exempt from the reservation does not alter the crown's interest in the premises provided that the particular lands mentioned come within the general designation of town lots and suburban lands referred to in section 10. That the particular lands so exempted by the section as amended do come within the general designation of town lots and suburban lands is conceded and would therefore fall within the scope of the bill as introduced whether particularly so mentioned in the amendment or generally as referred to in that section as introduced. Such amendment is quite consistent with the context of the bill as introduced and relevant thereto.

"With reference to the latter part of the amendment whereby the reservation is released from the lands so specifically mentioned as having been sold by public auction upon a certain date, it is to be observed that section 10 covers cases of town lots and suburban lands sold before as well as after the passage of the section.

"For the reasons already given the mention of particular lands which shall be deemed to be relieved from such reservation is not contradictory to the effect of the section as introduced, inasmuch as the original section provided for the exemption of such town lots and suburban lands. A committee has full power to amend even to the extent of nullifying the provisions of a bill but may not insert a clause which reverses the principle which the bill as read a second time affirms. The amendment in question does not, it appears, reverse the principle of the bill as introduced, the principle being to relieve certain classes of lands from certain reservations in favor of the crown, the amendment not enlarging the exemptions or adversely effecting the crown, but on the contrary tending to protect the crown by the requisition of assent by the Lieut.-Governor in Council before such exemption becomes operative. This is, of course, upon the assumption that the particular lands proposed to be exempted in the amendment come within the general classification of lands set forth in the province as introduced with reference to which there does not appear to be a difference of opinion.

"Section 10 declares an imposition upon certain lands in favor of the crown and further declares certain other lands free from such imposition.

"The amending section likewise declares an imposition upon lands of a class similar to those mentioned in section 10 as subject to such imposition and further declares certain lands of another class similar to those referred to in section 10 likewise as free from such imposition and specifies certain lands heretofore sold as coming within the class having such freedom provided the Lieut.-Governor in Council assents.

"Such alteration does not effect the principle of the bill as introduced.

"I therefore decide that the same is in order."

Passing of Land Act

Mr. Henderson claimed that Speaker Eberts had not dealt with the principal point which had been raised by Mr. Oliver in his point of order. He wanted a decision on the point which he outlined, and which, he asserted, was entirely different from that which had been taken into consideration in the judgment submitted.

Speaker Eberts stated that all the debatable points had been considered and that the ruling as read would be maintained.

This closed the discussion.

"An Act to Amend the Land Act" was then given its third reading, there being a straight party division, seventeen being in favor of its passage and eight against.

Taxing Departmental Stores

The attorney general submitted a message from the lieutenant governor recommending that clause 19 of the amended Municipal Clauses act should be struck out. This reads as follows:

"From every person carrying on in a city municipality a retail business in a departmental store, for every distinctive line of goods, not exceeding five dollars for every six months: Provided always, that the municipal council shall, before imposing the above tax, by the bylaw determine what lines of goods may be sold in one retail store under one license, and such council shall have regard to well established local custom."

It was referred to the committee of the house, with Mr. Taylor in the chair. Then the required amendment was made, the bill reported, and put through its third reading without opposition.

Hon. Mr. Fulton introduced another message from the lieutenant governor with the object of correcting some clerical and printers errors in the bill entitled "An Act for the Incorporation of the North Vancouver Municipality." It also was considered in committee with Mr. Taylor in the chair. Having been reported the bill was carried through its third reading.

Asked to Assent

Attorney General Fulton having announced the attitude which the government contemplated adopting in regard to the Dominion Lord's Day act, an account of which is contained in another column, Acting Premier Tatlow moved that his honor the lieutenant governor should be asked to assent to the measures which had been passed through the legislature during the session. This was adopted, and Speaker Eberts, declaring a short recess, left the chair.

Immigration Bill Set Aside

Within ten minutes thereafter his honor the lieutenant governor entered the chamber attended by his secretaries, Messrs Muskett and Bromley. The usual formalities having been complied with assent was given to all bills passed by the legislature with the exception of that proposing to restrict immigration to British Columbia. On that measure he reserved his decision. The enactment was introduced by Mr. Bowser and is drafted along the lines of the Natal act, proposing that all those coming to this province should be subjected to an educational test in English or some European language.

Measures Passed

The bills to which the lieutenant governor assented are as follows:

An act to amend the Interpretation act.

An act to consolidate and amend the Succession Duty act and amending acts.

An act to incorporate the British Columbia Veterinary association.

An act constituting a court of appeal and declaring its jurisdiction.

An act to amend the Rivers and Streams act.

An act to amend the Dyking Assessments Adjustment act, 1905.

An act respecting Ditches and Water Courses.

An act to amend the Administration act.

An act to Revive and Continue the Existence of Certain Companies.

An act to amend the Provincial Elections act.

An act to amend the Shops Regulations act, 1900.

An act to aid the University of British Columbia by a Reservation of Provincial Lands.

An act to amend the Coal Mines act.

An act relating to the Municipality of the City of Slocan.

An act to validate bylaw No. 23 of the City of Slocan, and to provide for the conveyance of property sold under the provisions of the said bylaw.

An act to amend the British Columbia Railway act.

An act to amend the Companies Act Amendment act, 1904.

An act to amend the Jurors act.

An act to amend the Attachment of Debts act, 1904.

An act to amend the British Columbia Fisheries act, 1901.

An act to protect Horse Breeders in the Province of British Columbia.

An act to amend the Land act.

An act to amend the Official Surveyors act.

An act to incorporate the British Columbia Anti-Tuberculosis Society.

An act for regulating the Hours during which Children of tender years may be on the streets without their Parents or Guardians.

An act to amend the Municipal Clauses act.

An act to amend the Supreme Court act.

An act to amend the Pharmacy act.

An act to amend the Bush Fire act.

An act to amend the Timber Measurement act, 1905.

An act to Revive, Ratify and Confirm the Queen Charlotte Islands Railway Company act, 1905.

An act to incorporate the Okanagan Telephone Company.

An act to incorporate the Cariboo and Pacific Mining, Smelting and Development Company.

An act to incorporate the Bentinck Arm and Quesnel Railway Company.

An act to incorporate the Vancouver Stock Exchange.

An act respecting the Securities Corporation of British Columbia.

An act respecting Slough Creek, Limited.

An act respecting the Consolidation of the Leases held by the Cariboo Gold Mining Company.

An act to incorporate the Portland Canal Railway Company.

An act to incorporate the East Kootenay Logging Railway Company.

An act to incorporate the Tsimpsean Light and Power Company.

An act to incorporate the Rainy Hollow Railway Company.

An act to incorporate the Imperial Underwriters' Corporation.

An act to amend the Vancouver Incorporation act, 1900.

An act to incorporate the Howe Sound, Pemberton Valley and Northern Railway Company.

An act to amend the North Vancouver City Incorporation act, 1906.

An act to amend the Land Registry act.

An act to amend the Mechanics' Lien act.

An act to confer upon the council of the Corporation of the City of Victoria certain powers, in addition to those conferred by the Municipal Clauses act, and to enact provisions in aid of Municipal Government particularly applicable to the City of Victoria.

An act to amend an act to Incorporate the Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning of British Columbia, 1906.

An act to amend the Line Fences and Water Courses act.

An act to amend the Water Clauses Consolidation act, 1897.

An act to divide South Vancouver Municipality.

A brief speech was made in reply to the address delivered by Speaker Eberts in behalf of the members of the legislature, as follows:

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

"I desire to give expression to my appreciation of the energy and industry you have displayed in dealing with the lage amount of legislation that has engaged your attention during the present session.

"The measures that you have passed will, I believe, be of much public utility and assist the efforts of my government to develop the resources of the province.

"The liberal provision you have made for the provincial service, and the prosecution of public works, should make the administration more effective and complete and enable the country to be further opened up to settlement, while aiding the progress of our chief provincial industries.

"In relieving you for the present from any further attendance on your parliamentary duties, I leave you with the belief that the results of your labors will be seen in the further progress and prosperity of all parts of the province."

The ceremony being completed the provincial secretary moved prorogation in the usual formal resolution, which reads in part as follows: "It is his honor the lieutenant governor's will and pleasure that the legislative assembly be prorogued until it shall please his honor to summon the same for dispatch of business and this provincial legislative assembly is hereby prorogued."

"Three cheers for His Majesty King Edward the VII," and the members filed from the chamber. Farewell hand shakes, mutual expressions of regret at parting and hope that another session would find all in good health and prepared for the transaction of public business, and the representatives of the electorate of British Columbia went their different ways, back to the joys of private life. In this way was concluded the first session of the eleventh parliament of the most westerly province of the Dominion.

SKIN DISEASES

Salt Rheum, Pimples, Erysipelas, Ringworm, Shingles, Scald Head, Itching Sores.

All diseases of the skin are more or less directly caused by a bad state of the blood, which produces acrid humors and corrupts the secretions.

No one can expect to have a clear, bright skin when the blood is in a disordered condition, and the stomach, liver and bowels acting feebly in consequence.

All the above skin diseases, in fact, any disease arising from a bad condition of the blood, are curable by

BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS

through its wonderful cleansing, purifying powers on the blood, and its renovating action on the system.

Mr. A. Squire, Dominion, N.S., tells how he was cured of Salt Rheum. He writes: "For years I suffered with Salt Rheum, and was unable to find a curable remedy out of all the medicines I took, and Physicians consulted. Finally I was urged by a friend to try Burdock Blood Bitters, and, after a very short space of time I was completely cured. I shall always recommend B.B.B. for such cases, as I consider it an indispensable remedy."

Price $1.00 per bottle or 6 bottles for $5.00.

Constipation

Baked sweet apples, with some people, bring relief for Constipation. With others, coarse all-wheat bread will have the same effect. Nature undoubtedly has a vegetable remedy to relieve every ailment known to man, if physicians can but find Nature's way to health. And this is strikingly true with regard to Constipation.

The bark of a certain tree in California—Cascara Sagrada—offers a most excellent aid to this end. But, combined with Egyptian Senna, Slippery Elm Bark, Solid Extract of Prunes, etc., this same Cascara bark is given its greatest possible power to correct constipation. A toothsome Candy Tablet, called Lax-ets, is now made at the Dr. Shoop Laboratories, from this ingenuous and most effective prescription. Its effect on Constipation, Biliousness, Sour Stomach, Bad Breath, Sallow Complexion, etc., is indeed prompt and satisfying.

No griping, no unpleasant after effects are experienced, and Lax-ets are put up in beautiful lithographed metal boxes at 5 cents and 25 cents per box.

For something new, nice, economical and effective, try a box of

Lax-ets

CYRUS H. BOWES.

The News.—No Pure Drug Cough Cure Laws would be needed, if all Cough Cures were like Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure is—and has been for 20 years. The National Law now requires that if any poisons enter into a cough mixture, it must be printed on the label or package. For this reason mothers and others should insist on having Dr. Shoops Cough Cure. No poison marks on Dr. Shoop's labels—and none in the medicine, else it must by law be on the label. And it's not only safe, but it is said to be by those that know it best, a truly remarkable cough remedy. Take no chance, particularly with your children. Insist on having Dr. Shoops Cough Cure. Compare carefully the Dr. Shoop package with others and see. No poison marks there. You can always be on the safe side by demanding Dr. Shoops Cough Cure. Simply refuse to accept any other. Sold by Cyrus H. Bowes.

TELLS OF GOOD SPORT FISHING AND HUNTING

Good Catches, How and Where They Are Obtained—Birds Are Numerous

(By H. F. Pullen.)

The hot weather of the last few days has turned the thoughts of anglers to their favorite sport. There has been some good fishing this year already, but only the most enthusiastic devotees care to shiver on the water. A month ago or more a shoal of grilse came up the Saanich arm, and while they were there some big catches were made. One man in describing the fun said that they were so thick that you had to keep them off with a club. The fish average about two pounds apiece, sometimes running to three pounds. They take a small spoon bait, the best sport being obtained with a rod. Now and then a salmon gets hitched on and then there is something doing for a while. Last week several parties visited the arm but had to be content with about half a dozen each.

Three weeks ago Sooke Lake trout were biting pretty well, but last week some parties came home with almost nothing in their baskets. Sooke lake is a favorite resort at this time of year and it is confidently expected that full baskets will be brought home this week. Last season at this time very large catches were reported, as many as a thousand fish to four rods. That was too many. No one should be allowed to take as many fish as that during one outing.

There has been so far no word from Cushion lake or any of the other Salt Spring rendezvous, but ere this off the press it is likely that several Victorians will be trying to beguile the wary inhabitants of those waters. When caught right Cushion lake gives as good sport as any place in the district.

Of the near home fishing Prospect lake is not yet nearly exhausted. Last week William Sehl took 28 large trout from that lake. In Victoria harbor and the Arm a good many fish have been taken lately. When fishing for trout at Point Ellice B. Nason hooked on a big spring salmon, and after a hard struggle landed him.

There is too much water in the Cowichan river yet, but the lake is better. Although no very large baskets have been taken nearly all visitors have taken a few. It is said, too, that salmon have been taken in the river but no authentic reports are to hand. If the weather continues warm there should be good fishing there in about three or four weeks.

Brant are said to be plentiful along the coast. A week ago W. Burton bagged sixteen on Discovery island, and Messrs. Monteith and Bechtel shot a number at Sooke spit. Except for the shooting of brant and the practice at the traps the guns are idle, as there is no game in season.

The 28th is the day set for a big trap shoot at the Giant Powder works, Cadboro bay, under the auspices of the employees of the company. Three expert traps have been installed on the Sargent system. The principal trophy is a challenge medal to be shot for by members of the Capital Gun club, the same to be won three times before becoming the property of the winner. There will also be a number of merchandise prizes, to be competed for by visitors.

Everywhere on the outskirts of the city the hooting of the big blue grouse may be heard and some young pheasants are already out. The woods and fields are alive with the feathered visitors from the southland, who come here to sing their songs and rear their young. Very few people seem to know much about the birds that visit this favored spot. One who professed to know told me last week that he identified no less than 85 different species of small birds within the radius of one farm last year.

The birds are very quickly adapting themselves to the advance of civilization. The sparrows are building their nests in the street lamps, the quail and pheasants are everywhere seen in the gardens of the city, and the robins nest in the back yards. There is, however, one modern institution that the larger game birds cannot get used to. That is the electric and fence wires. Last Sunday I saw a pheasant strike a fence wire when flying and a cloud of feathers was torn from her. It is quite common to hear of these birds as well as the quail being beheaded or seriously wounded by coming in contact with the telephone wires. Three days ago a pheasant flew in through an open window on Fort street, and this, I am told, is an uncommon occurrence.

The game park scheme outlined in the Colonist by Professor Hornaday has caused considerable discussion among sporting men. Nearly all agree that such parks as the one advocated should be established, and many think Vancouver island admirably suited for one. A few people seem to think that this preserve plan is for the purpose of preserving game for the rich people, and that permits will be granted to some to hunt therein. Nothing can be farther from the minds of those who advocate the game parks. They are to be closed to the hunter forever, a place of refuge for the game that is being fast depleted, where they may live unmolested. There are several of these parks in the United States and in eastern Canada. Only a few days ago a picture was published in one of the magazines showing the tourists watching the bears in the Yellowstone park. When protected they become quite tame. So far they have never attacked a human being there.

There is no other way of protecting the big game from total extermination. Game laws are all right, but eventually the big creatures that have cost the world so much labor and so many ages to create will, unless sterner measures are adopted for their protection, disappear altogether.

The Victoria Natural History society has on several occasions brought to the attention of the public the evil of picking the leaves when gathering the flowers of the curly lilly. It seems that when leaves are pulled the bulb, having no longer any means of sustenance, dies. The difficulty is that the flowers lose three parts of their beauty when gathered without the leaves. Further, it seems to be forgotten that this lily propagates by means of seeds instead of increasing like the daffodil. For this reason equally as much harm may be done by plucking the flowers along the hundred as by pulling a few leaves. The sight of women and children coming home from the country on a Sunday afternoon or evening with an armful of the withered flowers enough to decorate a church, strikes one as thoughtless in the extreme. There are plenty of lilies for everyone to have a few, but no one can properly use more than a handful.

ARMAMENT QUESTION

Germany Changes Attitude on Italian Compromise

Berlin, April 25.—According to reliable information received here, the attitude of Germany toward the Italian compromise proposition in the matter of discussing at The Hague peace conference the question of limitation of armaments is due to the internal policies of the empire. Prince Von Buelow, the German imperial chancellor, was sincere in agreeing with Signor Totini, the Italian foreign minister, at Rapallo, concerning the substance of that proposal, but according to the reports received in Rome, Herr Von Tschirski, the German secretary for foreign affairs, who is rather influenced by the anti-Italian current, was the person who had the proposal rejected. By doing this he pleased the party in Germany that is opposed to Prince Von Buelow.

Rheumatic sufferers can have a free sample of Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy with book on Rheumatism by simply writing Dr. Shoop, Racine, Wis. This book will explain how Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy successfully drives Rheumatism out of the blood. This remedy is not a relief only. It aims to clear the blood entirely of Rheumatic poisons, and then Rheumatism must die a natural death. Sold by Cyrus H. Bowes.

ONE OF THE CAMORRA

Naples, April 25.—The police of this city made an arrest yesterday that has a bearing upon the recent apprehensions in New York city of Enrico Alfano, also called Ericone, head of the Camorra of this city. They took into custody a woman named Stendardo, who has been mixed up with all the leaders of the Camorra. She was the mistress of Nicola Morra, one of the murderers of Succola, and the man who secured for Alfano the passport upon which he left Italy for the United States.

PRINCE EITEL'S FALL

Berlin, April 25.—Prince Eitel Frederick, Emperor William's second son, fell from his horse during a cavalry drill yesterday on the Drobeitz grounds, near Potsdam. Alarming reports were spread here this morning regarding his condition. Later, however, a telephone message from Potsdam said that the first reports of the accident were exaggerated, and that there was no cause to fear serious results.

NO WOMAN CAN BE STRONG AND HEALTHY UNLESS THE KIDNEYS ARE WELL

When the kidneys are ill, the whole body is ill, for the poisons which the kidneys ought to filter out of the blood are left in the system. Then how important it must be to see to it that this system of sewerage be not clogged up. Those who have never been troubled with kidney trouble know not the misery and suffering which those afflicted undergo.

Doan's Kidney Pills

are a specific for all kidney troubles. They begin by healing the delicate membranes of the kidneys and thus make their action regular and natural.

They help the kidneys to flush off the acrid and poisonous impurities which have collected, thus clearing out the kidneys, bladder and all the urinary passages.

Doan's Kidney Pills are entirely vegetable, and may be safely taken by young and old.

Let Doan's Kidney Pills do for you what they have done for thousands of others, that is, cure you. Mrs. John Young, Harwood, Ont., writes: "I was troubled with my kidneys for some time and my back was so lame I could scarcely get around. After using two boxes of Doan's Kidney Pills, I am completly cured. I find there is nothing like them for the cure of all kidney troubles."

Doan's Kidney Pills are 50 cents per box or 3 boxes for $1.25 at all dealers or mailed direct on receipt of price by The Doan Kidney Pill Co., Toronto, Ont.

VICTORIA IS PLACE FOR A CAR FACTORY

Such is the Opinion of Men Who Know What Conditions Are

MARKET IS ALMOST ILLIMITABLE

Demand for Rolling Stock Increases Rapidly and Railways Cannot Secure Supply

"Why do not the business men of Victoria take advantage of the opportunity that offers for the establishment of a car-building works?" is a question that has been asked many times lately by people who are in touch with public affairs and have watched the constantly increasing demand for cars on all the Canadian railways. The various railways of the country have been going ahead extending their lines in all directions, regardless of how they were going to equip them, until things have reached such a stage that, in the public interest and to enable the railways to handle the business offering, large additions must be made to their rolling stock.

Particularly is this so in the three prairie provinces, where conditions at present are almost intolerable. Along the main line of the Canadian Pacific, for example, may be seen grain in bags piled on the station platforms, where it has lain since last fall, owing to the inability of the railway to provide cars in which to ship it. Conditions are even worse along the lines of the Canadian Northern, and millions and millions of bushels of grain are held at interior points because the railways, owing to lack of cars, have been unable to handle the business offering.

Cannot Buy Cars

Naturally the people affected blame the railways, but the companies say they cannot be held responsible, for they would be only too glad to buy cars enough to handle the traffic if they could only find someone to sell and deliver the cars to them. The Canadian Pacific and the Canadian Northern, as well as the Grand Trunk in Ontario, have orders placed for thousands of cars, but they cannot secure delivery of them, for every shop in the country is flooded with orders and cannot begin to supply the demand. Little if any relief can be expected from the American shops, for they are quite as busy as those in Canada. As matters now stand, there is little prospect of the railways being able to properly equip their lines for several years to come, even if they were not to build another mile of track for the next few years. But these railways must keep extending their systems to keep pace with the growth of the country, even though these extensions do further tax their resources in the matter of supplying equipment. Then there is the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, being built, which must be equipped, and that in the very near future, besides which other railways are planned and some are even now actually in construction in the prairie provinces. Just how great is the cost of equipping a railway may be gathered from the fact that the Grand Trunk Pacific's first order for rolling stock will amount to $5,000,000, and this will be merely a start in the amount that will be required before the road is ready for operation.

From these facts it must be apparent that there is an almost illimitable market for railway cars in Canada. This market, it must be remembered, is not a temporary one. As long as goods are transported by rail the demand will continue.

In order to find out how the business men of Victoria feel on the question of the establishment of car works here, the Colonist has undertaken to interview, day by day, a number of prominent business men on the matter.

Victoria's Possibilities

The first man called upon yesterday was John Arbuthnot, of the Red Fir Lumber Company. Mr. Arbuthnot sized the situation in his usual businesslike way, and, in reply to a request for his views on the matter, said: "It has often struck me that Victoria offers great possibilities for a large car-building works. We have the lumber here; in fact at the present time lumber is taken from here to Winnipeg, Montreal and other eastern points for use in the building of cars. As far as the lumber is concerned, Victoria, therefore, is all right; but iron is also required in the construction of cars. Vancouver Island, I am told, possesses an abundance of iron, which requires only development to make it of commercial value and fit for use in the building of cars. What I cannot understand is why some of those who control these iron properties do not develop them. I am sure that if they were to show the public that they have a reasonable proposition, the necessary capital with which to develop the properties will be forthcoming without any trouble. One thing that should encourage smelting on Vancouver Island is the abundance of coal. If the iron properties are as good as it is said they are, nature has done her part well, and it only requires man to do his share.

"Some people may, of course, argue that the establishment of car works here would be rendered difficult through the shortage of skilled labor, but I have no fear on that score. If the work is provided, the men will be here to do it.

Both Possible and Advisable

"By all means I think the establishment of car construction shops in Victoria both feasible and advisable, although, as I said before, to make them a complete success smelting works must be established and the iron and steel used in the construction of the cars manufactured here. We would then be turning our own raw material into the finished article right in our own midst and getting the whole benefit out of their development.

"One thing that strikes me about the car-building industry in general is its great possibilities. We are as yet only on the fringe of railway development in Canada, and the factories cannot supply the roads now in existence with cars. The great prairie country is extending and expanding every day, and in a short time the existing railways will not begin to be able to handle the traffic, and new roads will have to be built. These, as well as the old roads, will require rolling stock—and large quantities of it, too. The market will thus go on from year to year increasing in extent, so that a car factory located in Victoria or any other part of Canada can always be certain of a ready sale for its products."

Mr. Goodfellow's Opinion

Another man called upon yesterday was John Goodfellow, superintendent of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway, whose connection with transportation places him in a position to speak with some authority on the matter. "What is my opinion on the establishment of car works in Victoria?" said Mr. Goodfellow. "It is just this—that it would be a good thing for Victoria and a good thing for the railways of the country, which are at present unable to buy rolling stock owing to the existing factories being overtaxed. Ten or a dozen cars turned out daily in Victoria would help materially to relieve the situation. Certainly the lumber is here, and the only drawback I see would be that, as matters stand, the iron and steel to be used in the cars would have to be imported, although I understand that Vancouver Island is rich in iron.— If this were developed, no place in the Dominion would offer greater possibilities in the way of car shops than would Victoria. I am sure I would be only too glad to see any such proposition go ahead."

For Catarrh, let me send you free, just to prove merit, a Trial size Box of Dr. Shoop's Catarrh Remedy. It is a snow white, creamy, healing antiseptic balm that gives instant relief to Catarrh of the nose and throat. Make the free test and see. Address Dr. Shoop, Racine, Wis. Large jars 50 cents. Sold by Cyrus H. Bowes.

ANNUAL REPORT OF INFORMATION BUREAU

Work of Important Provincial Department Increased During Year 1906

Following is Mr. Palmer's annual report of the work of the bureau of provincial information:

Captain the Honorable R. G. Tatlow, Minister of Finance and Agriculture, Victoria.

Sir—I have the honor to present my report as secretary of the bureau of provincial information, for the year ending December 31, 1906.

"The work of the bureau increased very considerably during 1906, the number of letters of inquiry received, and the number of visitors seeking information being greatly in excess of previous years. Of the correspondence fully 50 per cent was from persons asking for descriptive bulletins and maps of New British Columbia, and the probabilities of railway construction in that part of the province. The interest evinced in the central and northern interior indicates that those districts will secure a large number of settlers in the near future. Many inquiries were made for fruit land, and there were numerous queries, by individuals and companies, as to the possibilities of securing large blocks of land for colonization purposes. The natural resources of the province and the opportunities for the investment of capital in existing or new industries, were subjects of inquiry by many correspondents.

It is a noticeable fact that a large percentage of the letters received were written in behalf of groups of families, as many as 20 or 25 in some instances, all prepared to move to British Columbia, and that most of these declared themselves possessed of considerable cash capital, as well as live stock, farming implements, etc.

Much of the work accomplished by way of attracting the attention of intending emigrants to the advantages of British Columbia, can be traced directly to the policy of exhibiting British Columbia fruit in the centres of population in the Middle West of Canada, and in the United Kingdom.

During the year the following bulletins and pamphlets were prepared and published under your instructions:

Bulletin No. 10, Land and Agriculture (2 editions), 40,000.

Bulletin No. 17, Game (new edition), 3,000.

Bulletin No. 21, Timber (supplement), 7,000.

Bulletin No. 22, New British Columbia, 10,000.

Bulletin No. 23, Handbook of British Columbia, 10,000.

Bulletin No. 1 (Supplementary), Bush Lands, 2,000.

Fruit cards (colored), 10,000.

Booklet, Fruit-growing in British Columbia, 20,000; total, 103,000.

Of the above, the whole of the first edition of the bulletin on Agriculture, and bulletins on Bush Lands, New British Columbia, and the Handbook of British Columbia were distributed partly from this office and partly from the office of the Agent-General in London. The colored fruit cards were distributed at the exhibitions at Winnipeg, Brandon, Regina and other points in the Middle West, and the booklet on Fruit-growing was sent to England for distribution at fruit shows and fall fairs.

The number of letters received and answered during the year was 9,280, as compared with 4,255 for the previous year. In addition to the above mentioned, regular publications of the bureau, a large number of maps, departmental reports, acts of the legislature, bulletins issued by the department of agriculture and the bureau of mines, and other miscellaneous publications, were distributed in the course of the year. A small sketch map of the province was sent on with every copy of Bulletin No. 10, and a map of the northern interior with Bulletin No. 22.

The great number of inquiries received during 1906, upon all subjects within the scope of the bureau, would indicate that in the coming year it will be found advisable to publish larger editions of the bulletins most in demand, viz., those dealing with agriculture and horticulture, and those devoted to descriptions of the province, its natural resources and industries. The practice of the bureau is to place the bulletins, maps, etc., in the hands of bona fide seekers for information, and care is exercised to guard against their indiscriminate distribution.

New and revised editions of Bulletins Nos. 22 and 23 were prepared for publication early in the present year, as the first editions were practically exhausted. It is also proposed to publish revised editions of the bulletins on Mining and Fisheries early in 1907.

R. M. PALMER,
Secretary.

Albany, N.Y., April 25.—The assembly today passed a bill forbidding fire insurance companies from entering into contracts to control rates.