

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Hon. Mr. Pooley Criticised for Appearing Against the Province.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL VS. PREMIER

Long Discussion on a Point of Order—Which Party Represents the Majority of the Voters of the Province?—Politicians' Day.

Monday, Feb. 5. The speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. Prayers by the Rev. S. Cleaver.

Hon. J. H. Turner presented a petition from the W. C. T. U. The following petitions were received: John Irving and others, for a private bill to incorporate the Victoria, Vancouver & Westminster railway company.

Hon. Mr. Beaven moved that in the opinion of this house the incidence of the tax on mortgages is inequitable. Mr. Speaker ruled the motion out of order in the following decision:

"The resolution of the hon. member for New Westminster district (Mr. Sword), which I asked to have laid over for the purpose of consulting authorities is as follows: 'That the opinion of this house is that the incidence of the tax on mortgages is inequitable.' It is an important financial principle that the house should not be called upon to condemn taxes which they are not prepared to insist that the incidence of the tax on mortgages is inequitable."

Hon. Mr. Beaven contended that the resolution would not vary the tax. The legislature could not tax the legislature was of no force. The private bills committee reported that the rules and orders had been complied with by the petitioners.

The public accounts committee reported that the total expenditure as brought to account at the treasury from July 1st to December 31st, 1893, is \$7,942,342.32; receipts, \$2,541,905.05; expenditure over receipts, \$5,400,437.27.

Hon. Mr. Pooley said he could see no reason for the first part of the resolution. The information asked for there was given in the public accounts. Hon. Mr. Beaven explained that the figures in the public accounts were only up to June 30th, 1893.

Dr. Milne and Hon. Mr. Vernon supported the motion and it was adopted. On motion of Mr. Beaven, seconded by Mr. Milne, it was resolved that an order of the house be granted for a return of all lands sold for taxes under the assessment act, 1888, to the present date, showing the description of the property, the date of sale and the amount realized for each parcel.

preference of wages and salaries in cases of assignment for benefit of creditors.

Mr. Kellie moved: Whereas there is a vast extent of country lying north of Revelstoke rich in timber and mineral resources that for want of cheap communication is practically inaccessible...

Mr. Cotton moved the adjournment of the house. He did this, he said, to give the government an opportunity to consider a matter concerning the executive council.

Hon. Mr. Beaven—It is the practice everywhere that a motion to adjourn is in order, and all kinds of questions can be debated on that motion.

Hon. Mr. Beaven—You can discuss for days a motion to adjourn if it is desired to do so. Mr. Hunter thought it unfortunate that members did not have an opportunity to reply to Mr. Cotton.

Hon. Mr. Beaven said it was a very silly thing to try and bring in a resolution that would not be passed.

Hon. Mr. Beaven—How can you move the previous question to a point of order? Mr. Speaker—I am strictly in order.

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to be hard to get a good man to take it. It was not understood when the salaries of ministers were increased that they should devote all their time to public business.

Mr. Speaker asked Mr. Cotton for an authority for the motion. Mr. Cotton referred to rule ten of the rules and orders, which says a motion to adjourn is always in order.

Hon. Mr. Beaven—The matter should have been brought up on a question of privilege. Mr. Cotton—This is a case of urgency.

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to be correct. The election of the premier in Westminster district showed that that district was not against the government.

Hon. Col. Baker rose to speak, and as he did so the lights went out. Continuing in the dark, he said that Mr. Kellie did run as a government candidate in West Kootenay.

Hon. Mr. Beaven contended that he had not been a traitor to the independent party, as had been insinuated by Mr. Brown.

Hon. Mr. Beaven—What I said was that if what the attorney-general said was true you were traitors. It was the attorney-general who branded you as traitors.

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1893? And what is the acreage of the same? Hon. Mr. Vernon answered, in 1892 there were 869 claims, for 139,440 acres, and in 1893, 832 claims for 213,440 acres.

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BOARD OF TRADE LOCAL AND PROV. NEWS OF THE DAY Selected from the day's Evening Telegraph.

Committee on the Upper Yukon. The meeting of the board of trade this morning was presided over by President A. C. Plummer.

The appended report on the upper Yukon country was presented to the President and Members of the board of trade.

Mr. Keith asked the attorney-general, is it the intention of the government to enforce the "Coal Mine Regulation Amendment Act, 1890?"

Hon. Mr. Beaven answered: "It is present state I do not think it is the intention of the government to enforce the 'Coal Mine Regulation Amendment Act, 1890.'"

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