vate enterprises tion to the prininvolved in the g under the proact by virtue of nus, gift, or subconsideration is made or given, ration by way of ertaken or to be rson or corporaes or purports to inder and by vir-

t, bonus, gift, or ole consideration to be made or r corporation; or irports to extend y former act for conditions under bonus, gift, able consideration en to any person me into force une fact has been tition of five per matter should be

the operation eguard the public to corporations under the presopportunity to

he motion out of the province of a

mitted from the commending vest the title aim, Atlin, in the was reported and

y Mr. Hunter exment that no esided for a bridge hilcotin, which he ed would be in He protested \$30,000 being

for Government said that he was oridge at Chilcotin had heard nothportance till the et that nothing and a large sum was ample reply government had ly to ridings rent members. He is speaker that the ght to receive the high cost of pense entailed in icers and foreign

the Finance Minnothing had been ridge. A month a petition for this

d his constituency before complainprevious governm to build a road minster was not ach had been said repudiation. This government, and be kept.

mplained that no made for a pack mnett for the car

ssured the member another session take up the build ad mentioned, and as necessary. he other hand conment on the ap-000 for rebuilding ariboo had receiv-

the Cariboo road. the government on rt for charities to see the day when pital in every dis-

ceeded to the conious items in the

00 for a surveyor and revenue, the xplained that this rough the province ment rolls and he law is properly

ly supported the fficial was needed. tep would be very ng timber dues, were continually the government. e the appointment

strong plea for instenographers and rinting office. He the absolute acnts from the govwas no place ore necessary, and receive adequate

other hand, proier increases in t financial condi-

500 for a residen r. Stables thanked necessary appro rould be effected, nment been com indigent patients terian hospital it \$3.000. Later, for hospitals was

urged the great to the exclusion ional hospitals. As open to all classes me treatment as r. McPhillips sup-

to expending \$30, e work like Gov-Mr. Hunter held vernment should

000 for a reforma-Finance Minister by Mr. McInnes, to abolish the re-

advertising drew a Mr. Martin, who ing of newspapers ner government for the Colonist and ers. He protested

e with the people's ed this sum as en at there was no ex-

nes, explaining the

dvertising the elec-

would be much better to spend it on outting the assay department at Victoria

mmission, said there was no intention enquire into or interfere with the ight-hour law. Mr. Houston objected to the expendiwhich he characterized as useless. amended by adding the following:

good shape. Mr. Martin also stamped the proposed y as useless. The government had itself in a hole by attempting to ate the mine owners, and had proma commission to investigate the rking of the law. The government nd the House would not stand that, they were attempting to back out this useless expenditure. What the reason for this commission? Mr. Hunter rallied the leader of the

ation on his varying views in regard this "precious" eight-hour law. He olf did not believe in interfering the law. They had it in Cariboo years ago. It didn't materially the province. If the law had not passed many of the miners would we been working eight hour shifts.

The committee rose and asked leave to sit again. The House went into committee on

Helmcken's Bill re works under chises under Private Acts, with Mr. Dickie in the chair. Mr. Kidd asked if the penal clauses

would apply to a farmer who secured a Crown grant to certain lands. Hon. Mr. McBride couldn't say that it Mr. Kidd wished it would extend to all

farming lands in the province, and also that it could be made retroactive. Mr. Curtis moved an amendment to nclude companies incorporated under the Companies Act, thus enlarging the

cope of the bill. His amendment was as follows:

"4. In case of any provincial act passed would avoid taxation altogether. since the first day of January, A. D. corporate, society or association, or in royalty he held that they occupied the case of any provincial act by virtue of same relative position as at present. which the provincial government or some

Also to strike out all the words of line 18 occurring after the word "any" of workmen as well who lived through their aid section 4, and to strike out the word employment in these mines, he suggest-"justices" wherever it occurs in any subequent line of said section 4, and to substitute the word "justice" in lieu thereof in each case.

Also to insert immediately after the word "any," in the first line of section the words "prosecution for." Also to strike out the word "private,

in the title of said bill, and substitute therefor the word "provincial." Also to add to said section 4 the folnwing sub-section:

"(a.) The word 'workman' shall in clude, mechanic, miner, artisan and lahorer, but the including of these classes of persons therein shall not be construed o cut down any wider signification the 'workman' may have." The government objecting, Mr. Curtis

hdrew his amendment. Mr. McInnes then submited a similar It was quite in line with the spirit of the bill to make it applicable to all companies that directly or indiectly received sanction from the Legislature. He pointed out that some companies might evade the clause by apply-

ig under the Companies' Act. The amendment was lost. Another amendment was offered by Mr. Curtis, providing that one justice of peace might try cases arising out the bill as well as two. This also was lost as well as a trifling amendment to the phraseology to section 6. The bill was completed with amend-

The House then rose. ---Friday, Aug. 24.

Matters bucolic occupied the attention of the House very largely this evening over the introduction of a land bill by the Chief Commissioner. The bill met with general approval, but opened the way for a large number of speeches on the importance of the agricultural in-

The House met at 2:30. Prayers were read by Rev. W. Leslie Clay. Three petitions protesting against the appointment of a commission to inquire

into the working of the Mineral act were presented by Mr. Green. These were from Sandon, Silverton and Kaslo, and were most voluminous. The formal motion of the Minister of

Finance on the supplementary estimates was reported and given the requisite number of readings. Mr. Garden asked the Chief Commis

sioner of Lands and Works the following question: Is it the intention of the government to appoint timber cruisers to thoroughly examine the timber lands of the province and to report thereon, with the object in view of setting apart timber berths, to be offered for sale by pubic competition?

Hon. Mr. Wells replied as follows: 'The government has already taken initiatory steps towards a more extended province, and applying the competitive third time and finally passed, and the re-

port of the Judgments Act, 1899, Amendment bill was adopted. The House went into committee of the whole on the Tramways Act Amendment bill, with Mr. Mounce in the chair. Mr. Martin gave notice of an amendment allowing tramways to be built to

on the government in regard to it. ported complete without amendment. committee on the Licenses Act

nendment bill, Mr. Brown asked that be fixed as well as a maximum one.

The following amendment was offered very bad effect in money markets to cir- tained his control over the land, as the

item of \$3,500 for a mining and water by Mr. Fulton but was allowed to stand

To insert as section 5 the following: "5. Section 24 of the 'Mineral Act,' as amended by section 5 of the 'Mineral Act Amendment Act, 1898,' is hereby

"Provided, further, that any free miner shall at any time have the right of receiving and recording a certificate or certificates of work for all or any assessment work done by him or any predecessor in title since the recording of his claim, in excess of the value for which he or any predecessor in title has already obtained a certificate or certificates of work, provided that at the time of applying for such additional certificate or certificates of work such claim is still in good standing in the office of the mining recorder, and has not lapsed or otherwise become invalid; and provided that the affidavit required by this section shall state the total amount of work done in each year since the date of record of the mineral claim, and the value thereof for

each of such years." The committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

The Finance Minister moved the sec ond reading of the bill to tax coal and coke. He explained that he proposed an amendment to the bill whereby the proposed tax took the place of the present personal tax.

Mr. Martin mentioned the peculiarity that those coal mines which paid a royalty as annexed to their coal rights. would be placed at a disadvantage in comparison with other companies which did not. It was a question if it would not be fairer to make the tax heavier on companies paying no royalty. He also thought the exemption from other taxes should only take effect where a company was operating satisfactorily. Otherwise by practically suspending operation they

The latter point commended itself to 1898, or hereafter passed, giving, grant- the Finance Minister, though in regard ing or confirming to any person, body to companies which did and did not pay While agreeing that the Minister of government official may or does give, Finance should be allowed to raise as grant, or confirm (whether by way of a much revenue as was reasonably poscharter or certificate of incorporation or sible, Mr. Helmcken feared a five cent association, or an Order in Council or tax was excessive. It would bear very otherwise) to any person, body corporate, heavily on the coal mine owners engaged society, or association the right of min- in the export trade, considering the ng, smelting, refining, erecting bridges, heavy import tax they had already to making or operation a railway, tramway, face in California. He feared the tax went too far. In the interests not only of the capitalists interested, but of the

> ed a modification of the bill. Mr. R. Smith cautioned the House against any steps which might result in visiting taxation on the workmen. He wanted the tax regulated so that the individual coal miner would not have to pay for it. He had always held that the consumers across the line who took 75 per cent. of British Columbia coal should pay a duty. There was more coal exported from Nanaimo than from the Premier's mines. In the former case there was more danger of the tax falling on the individual workman. At present a 67c, tariff was placed on British Coin which case the brunt of the hardship would fall on the workmen.

In the Crow's Nest mines he felt also that ultimately the tax would fall on the man who dug the coal. He did not say this to depreciate the Premier's action. But there were conditions which existed which gave his property an advantage over either the Nanaimo or Crow's Nest mines. He was

in a better position to calculate this tax than other owners. Mr. Brown said the tendency of a taxed concern was to shift it on to the consumer. What the preceding speaker had individual workman applied to every industry. For instance, the sharp collection of timber 'dues mentioned the previous day might have the same effect. There was one way the worker could be protected-namely, to have a pro-

perly constituted authority in the country with power to fix fair wages. He wanted to impress that point on the House. To fix prices or wages by statute would be well-nigh impossible.

Mr. Hunter couldn't understand what the previous speaker had been driving at. He thought the tax would be most popular. There had been so much ranting about "coal barons" that he thought, a tax upon them would have been appreciated. Yet they had two gentlemen getting up in the House and practically trying to "temper the wind to the shorn

lamb," namely, the coal barons. Mr. Smith-Nothing of the kind. Continuing, he said that the principle of a sliding scale was impracticable.

Mr. Smith-Tax the profits. Mr. Hunter held that would be unfair as it would tax the good and successful manager and not the bad one.

The bill carried without opposition. The Assessment Act Amendment bill was explained by the Finance Minister as a provision to impose heavier taxes on higher incomes. Another important provision provided for a two per cent. tax on mines which realized \$5,000 or over yearly, and one per cent. on those bringexamination of the timber lands of the ing less, and two per cent. on placer mines yielding a gross of over \$2,000. system so far as it is expedient to do." It was felt that these mines did not The Land Registry bill was read a yield sufficient, and already the governreturns from a large company seemed inadequate. The bill also exempted municipal and government debentures from taxation because such a tax was paid

directly by the people themselves. Mr. Curtis regretted the section had not been dropped. It meant that the the boundary line. The bill was re- tax on the mining output was doubled. The amount of revenue derived on this Consideration of the Railway Assess- account would not be so large as to offnent Act Amendment bill in committee set the disadvantage this tax would occaas deferred upon the request of the sion. Such a policy would have greater Attorney-General who stated that he effect in discouraging capital than any ad received a telegram intimating that other proposal made during the session. deputation from Revelstoke would wait Last year on a one per cent, rate they received \$31,000; on the same output un-The Elections Act Amendment bill was der the two per cent. rate the revenue would be \$62,000, almost the estimate made by Mr. Turner. Left at its old rate and with the steady increase in the outninimum penalty for infractions of the put he thought the revenue would be nearly as large as this estimate. The bill was reported complete without lode mines were not in good condition, mendment, read a third time and finally and this certainly was an inopportune

case owing to the cry that had been cir- land.

such a statement as he had referred to was totally incorrect. A glance at the few companies paying dividends should deter the government from the step, especially as it was reported that considerable capital was now ooking toward this province.

The bill also discriminated against the ow grade properties which had to ship an immense lot of ore to insure much of a return. Such a tax might so curtail the profits of these mines that they might close down.

In the interior living was high and transportation charges excessive, necessitating high wages. Latterly one smelter had been able to secure a reduction cease. of \$1.50 a ton, but transportation

charges were still very high. The bill also seemed to exempt free milling properties, as it taxed only those ores removed from the premises. The trates only from the free milling proper-

He thought the tax should be at least stayed for the investigation of the mining commission, if such was to be appointed, or pending a visit to the interested sec-

tions by the Minister of Mines. He would not raise such a strong objection were it not that two-fifths of the total provincial revenue at the present time was derived from this industry. Directly and indirectly it received one-half its revenue from this source. If the tax was increased a burden would be put on the mines at a time that they could not afford to stand it, especially as a number of small mines were just beginning

The bill passed its second reading. The Speaker saw six o'clock. EVENING SESSION Resuming at 8:30 p.m. the Phoenix In-

corporation Bill received its second read-The Land Bill was taken up for second reading. The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works explained that it was designed to relieve a large class of settlers who found themselves unable to comply with the conditions of the Land It provided that pre-emptors of Crown lands in arrears of payment might have Crown grants upon payment of seventy-five per cent. of such instalment in three instalments payable before

December 31st, 1901. The explanation of the Chief Commissioner was received with great applause on both sides of the House. Messrs. Hayward, Oliver, Munro, Green and Ellison spoke in very flattering terms of the bill. Mr. Munro said it had been a subject .o which he had paid a great deal of attention and had promised his constituents to attempt to secure some such concessions. Mr. Ellison expressed no surprise lumbia coal by the United States. If that such a step had been taken because that duty were increased five or more the present government was a farmers' cents it would mean that United States government. He had waited on Mr. Cot- wanted to wash the ground. His mines would be most dangerous com- ton when he was Chief Commissioner petitors. Matters might come to such a asking for a similar measure. He felt whether the ground was actually requir stage that the owners might close down, that those who pre-empted bush lands ed for placer purposes with the gold comought to receive it free. Mayor Houston | mission was glad that a Kootenay minister (Mr. Wells) had brought in a bill which met with the unanimous support of the

House. Mr. Hunter indicated that he would move for similar relief to the miners by allowing them to cut the timber neces-

sary to build their cabins, etc. Mr. Martin did not join in the chorus of praise. The present bill gave the settler who had fallen in arrears a decided advantage over the man who had met his obligations. Surely the man who had kept up his payments was entitled to a said in regard to taxes falling on the refund. They would be perfectly justified, he believed, in making such a demand. If it was felt that the land had cost too much in the first place, why not admit the fact and frame the law on

> Even the pre-emption system was open to the same abuse. He took a different view from his leader on the subject. The bill, to his mind, was a measure to induce the prompter payments of sums due the province. He thought there could not be much objection from those who had met their obligations in full, as this was merely a measure of relief to those who were less fortunate. It could not be denied that as regards pre-emptions some settlers had much greater advantages than others. Some enjoyed better market facilities than others. While the bill was open to some objection he thought

the general principle was correct. . point of the previous speaker illustrated | tion work. his remarks by mentioning that while

The Minister of Agriculture said that ment was looking into a case where the ly to make concessions in connection to have discovered of the word "Caucawith his accounts in order to get them in. The same principle applied here. While the principle helped some of the settlers it really helped the whole province because it brought in these long outstanding

accounts. Mr. Kidd believed that free homesteads should have been given in the first instance. Still he was glad to see the present effort at redress. He was surprised that the hon, leader of the opposition had seen fit to challenge that reform. He must know that no reform had ever been instituted that had not the appearance of being unequal. He described the difficulties attending farming in British Columbia and the serious problems confronting some of them. The farmer deserved greater attention even than the miner. The latter took from the province its resources, the other increased the assets of the country. He supported the bill.

culate the fact that the mining tax had property of the Crown, while the prebeen doubled. This was especially the emptor continued to pay taxes on the

culated that the Martin government de- The Minister of Mines reminded the sired to impose burdens on capital. Not leader of the opposition that while he knowing of the change in the govern- was a member of the Semlin government ment, capitalists would regard the in- that administration had inserted a nocrease in the tax as bearing out the tice in the Gazette warning the delinstatement that British Columbia had quent pre-emptors that unless their dues such a government. Needless to say, were paid within twelve months the land would revert to the Crown. This showed what a small part the farmer held in the heart of the hon, gentleman opposite. It was quite impossible to do jus-

tice to everyone on a matter of this kind. Mr. Gilmour was astonished that the Minister of Mines should seek to blame the government of 1899, when two of his colleagues were supporters of that government. It was most unfair to seek to attach all the blame to one minister.

Hon. Mr. Prentice-I don't think I could be regarded as a supporter of the Semlin administration.

Mr. McInnes-Wonders will never Continuing, he said that not only was

Mr. Prentice a supporter of that gov ernment but he was a supporter of it un der most peculiar circumstances. Mi McInnes commended the government for tax would therefore fall on the concen- that step, but scored the Minister of Mines for blaming Mr. Martin for every act of the Semlin government on certain things. There were always differences of opinion and later in the evening when the vote on the Grand Forks & Kettle River Railway Bill was reached they would see an exhibition of differences of opinion, on that subject even in this

stable united government. Mr. Helmcken also commended th government for its action. He drew attention to the injustice done small hold ers. In some instances he found men who had to pay about 350 times the value of the property. These cases deserved immediate attention, and he urged the Chief Commissioner to afford relief to these men.

The bill then passed its second reading

and committed. In reply to Mr. Helmcken's suggestion regarding small holders, the Chief Comnissioner said the question of meeting the difficulties of the small holders was an important and difficult one. Long leases had advantages as well as disadvantages. The payments were counted part purchase money, if the holders so desired. The suggestion was a good one, and would receive careful considera

Mr. Kidd explained a number of the difficulties attending the matter. The bill was reported complete and adopted. The Pine Creek Discovery Confirma tion Bill came up for second reading. Mr. Martin asked if the confirmation

f title would disturb any one else's

Hon. Minister of Mines said it would In committee Mr. Stables asked what would be the effect of confirming the title in relation to those who had built on the claim which constituted largely

the site of the townsite of Pine. Mr. Martin submitted an amendment to prevent the owners of the claim from exacting rents under the plea that they amendment placed the power of saying

Mr. Clifford entirely agreed with Mr Martin's amendment, which he said would prevent a hardship being worked on these people. The amendment was adopted, and the

bill reported complete.

The House went into committee of ways and means, and finally disposed of the suplementary estimates. The Pacific Northern & Omineca Railway Bill coming up for its third reading. Mr. McInnes brought in an amend ment excluding Mongolians from work in connection with the operation of the road. The present bill already excluded them from construction work. The

amendment was as follows: That the following words be inserted

as a new section: "No person who is unable to read this this principle? If 25 per cent. was to act and the 'British Columbia Railway be thrown off to the man in airears why Act, shall be employed in the construcnot throw it off to the man who was not tion or operation of the undertaking herein arrears? The suggestion and hint of by authorized, under a penalty of five the bill was not to comply with the act, dollars per day for each and every such but to go on in arrears hoping for a fur person so employed in contravention of ther rebate. The subject of dealing with public of any person under the provisions of the lands, Mr. Brown said, would stand 'Summary Convictions Act.' This section much looking into. Any giving away of shall not apply to or affect in any way land was apt to be abused by speculators. any person who is on the register of voters in any electoral district for the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, any Indian or person of Caucasian

blood " Mr. Martin strongly supported the amendment, and asked why these people were excluded from construction and not from the operation of railways? Mr. Green, who was in charge of the bill, feared the clause might expose the bill to disallowance, although generally approving the principle.

Mr. McPhillips, too, was very nervous about results, although Mr. Curtis attempted to reassure him by reminding him that he had already gone quite as far by excluding these "yellow gentle-Mr. A. W. Smith, emphasizing the last men," as he called them, from construc-

Mr. Martin pressed for including the many ridings were well watered, others clause in a general bill, and asked the depended altogether for moisture on ir- government to treat the House fairly and give them the benefits of their view. Mr. Hunter caused some pleasantry by ever; business man was obliged frequent- resurrecting some definitions he claimed

The amendment was defeated on al most a straight party vote as follows: Yeas-Martin, Curtis, Brown Munro, R. Smith, McInnes, Gilmour, E. C.

Smith, Oliver and Neill. Nays-Green, Kidd, McPhillips. mcken, Tatlow, Garden, Hayward, Fulton, Clifford, A. W. Smith, Eberts, Dunsmuir, Turner, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor and

The third reading of the Vancouver reached, Mr. Garden asked to take up the Grand Forks & Kettle River rail- it stand till Thursday. way. This was refused, but as the next bills stood in his name, the leader of the opposition suggested letting these two stand in order to reach the Kettle River Railway Bill. Immediately on doing this the Premier

rose and moved the adjournment of the House till Monday amid derisive laughter it was most unfair to keep them longer Mr. Neill pointed out some anomalies from the opposition, and the remark of time to double a tax. It would have a in the present act. The magistrate re Mr. McInnes, "Any port in a storm." Messrs. Martin and McInnes protested day at 2 p.m.

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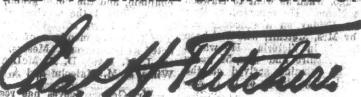
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against attempting to kill the bill in that

manner Mr. McInnes, too, objected to adjourning till Monday. It was understood that Incorporation Amendment Bill being a jaunt was contemplated on Tuesday and Wednesday, and he suggested letting

> This brought Price Ellison to his feet He strongly objected to these picnics till the House was through, so that he could get home. A number of up country members were remaining in the city while their private business suffered, and

than necessary. The House then rose to meet on Mon-

TAKE NOTICE that I intend to apply to the Honorable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the whole of the Island known as Parker Island, situate at the mouth of Barciay Sound, and containing one hundred (100) acres more or less.

Dated this 16th day of July, 1900;

MURRAY O. POTTS.