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# THE LOCAL LEGISLATURE

## First Session—Seventh Parliament.

### TWENTY-NINTH DAY.

Victoria, Wednesday, Jan. 9.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. Prayers were offered by Rev. G. C. King.

Mr. EBERTS presented the 12th report of the Private Bills committee, stating that the preamble had been proved in the Victoria Hydraulic Mining Company's bill. The report was adopted.

Dr. WALKEM secured the first reading of a bill intituled An Act to regulate the Practice of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery in the Province of British Columbia.

Mr. KITCHEN moved the following resolution: That a select committee, composed of Messrs. Booth, Walkem, Braden, Sword and himself be appointed to examine the returns brought down to this House in connecion with the Fraser Valley Relief, with power to call for persons, books and papers, and to report to this House. He explained that he had asked for certain returns on Dec. 3rd, and that when they came down the information sought by him was not given. There was a discrepancy between the books. He wanted to get the name of every individual who had received seed and the quantity of the same supplied. He did not propose to put the country to any expense, and did not anticipate calling anyone before the committee other than Mr. Townsend, who had acted as chief distributor. He might find it necessary to explain his own books.

Hon. Col. BAKER questioned whether the game was worth the candle. He would not oppose the fullest investigation of the relief accounts, but would ask the mover to consider whether it would be wise to put the country to the expense incidental to a committee of inquiry.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE suggested that if it was not the mover's intention to call for persons to attend the meetings of the committee that the latter part of the resolution should be omitted. He said it would be a matter for surprise if it were found that there were not a few cases of people having received more relief than they deserved. The circumstances attending the delivery of the relief were such that mistakes were very likely to have occured. He questioned the advisability of the time of the members being taken up with matters which promised little benefit to the country.

Mr. SWORD said in view of the fact that the answer returned to the order of the House was not intelligible, it was advisable to have a committee straighten out the matter.

Mr. KITCHEN gave a number of instances of inaccuracies in the Government account of the amounts of seed distributed, showing that where 200 lbs. had been distributed, through an error it appeared in the Government return as 200 sacks. It was to straighten out such difficulties that he had moved the resolution. The resolution was passed in its original form.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE moved the following resolution: That the order of this House passed on the 28th of February, 1894, (Journals 1894, page 69, and printed as order 115) be amended by adding thereto the following words: "unless the sense of the amendment be more plainly manifested by a simple erasure, substitution or addition; and that it be the duty of the law clerk to alter any bill after its introduction so as to comply with this rule before the second reading thereof." He explained that as matters stood at present, when desiring to amend an act the whole or material part of the section affected by the amendment must appear in the amending bill. There were many cases where it was desired to simply amend the acts by altering figures or striking out unnecessary words when compliance with the rule was quite unnecessary and cumbersome. The resolution was adopted.

Mr. HELMCKEN put the following questions to the Minister of Agriculture: (1) Whether tuberculin is an infallible test? (2) Whether it is not a fact that the Government has recently decided upon closing its London office.

Hon. Mr. TURNER then asked for time to look into the matter, and the questions went over subject to the Minister's convenience.

The petition from the residents of Trail and Sheep creeks in favor of the passage of the Red Mountain Railway bill was received and ordered printed.

The petition of Paul Brentzen, re disputed lands in the vicinity of Fort Simpson was received.

The petition of the ratepayers of New Westminster asking that the corporate charter of the municipality of New Westminster be disallowed and that the municipality be brought under the general municipal act was received.

The Harrison Hot Springs Exclusion bill received its third reading.

Mr. COTTON moved the second reading of the North Vancouver Electric Company's bill. He explained that it was merely asking an extension of time for the construction of the enterprise. There were no other changes made. The state of things in North Vancouver and the general depression in business, and the fact that the country had not settled up as was expected had not rendered it necessary to prosecute these works as rapidly as was at first intended. It was also impossible to raise the large sum of money necessary to carry out the undertaking, while there was no possibility of the undertaking bringing in satisfactory returns. The bill received its second reading.

On motion of Mr. HUME the C. & K. railway bill received its second reading.

The House went into committee with Mr. BREDEN in the chair to consider the Nanaimo Water-works bill. The bill simply provides that the company shall have the power to take water somewhat higher up the river at a point one mile above Starke falls. This was deemed necessary in order to secure a better pressure.

Considerable discussion was occasioned by the amendment offered by Mr. FORSTER, who said that although the company had a right to take water from the river at present it had not as yet seen fit to do so. It was not true that the company was deserving of consideration at the hands of the House. The truth was that the people of Nanaimo had a bill before the House seeking power to construct their own waterworks system and asking for power to take water from the same river as the company. This was evidence that the company was not giving satisfaction.

Mr. BOOTH said that Mr. Forster was stretching his reasoning rather far in saying that the amendment would not apply to rights already possessed by the company. The increased demand for water compelled the company to avail itself of its privilege of taking the water from the Nanaimo river, but a survey convinced them that it would be necessary to get water at a higher level for the purpose of securing pressure, otherwise it would be nesessary to resort to the expense of pumping.

Dr. WALKEM supported the bill in a vigorous speech and denounced the amendment.

Mr. McGREGOR was not so warm a supporter of the Nanaimo Water-works Company. He defended the action of the corporation of Nanaimo in seeking to place itself independent of the Waterworks company. An attempt had been made to purchase the company's stock but not more than one-third was offered and this at a very high premium. He gave the Water company no credit for consideration of the interests of the people, saying that the fire insurance company had forced the issue of securing a higher pressure by the cancellation of all fire risks in that city.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE gave a careful review of the attending circumstances accounting for the passing of the clause embodied in Mr. Forster's amendment. In view of the many franchises sought for the purpose of diverting and using water in 1892 it was deemed in the interest of the people that the Legislature should require some return for a new right be looked upon in the near future as a valuable privilege, or take precautions for the purpose of securing a revenue commensurate with the privileges granted. This company secured its act in 1885 to take water from Stark's falls. Next year the act was amended, when the Legislature imposed a new condition, as was shown in clause 5, which bound the company not to employ any Chinamen. He considered that the principles which actuated the House in inserting this clause some years ago was the same as that which impelled the House to impose the present clause. The company now wanted greater gravity; they want to get further up the river. The House in passing the amendment, imposing this clause, will be imposing it with respect to the further right which they seek to acquire. He could not see why this principle should not apply to this bill. He would vote for the insertion of this clause as he did not consider that it would result in any injustice to the Nanaimo Waterworks Company. He then explained that the insertion of the clause would doubtless be of benefit to the company. The opinion held by the courts was that the right of expropriation existed to a very great extent. When a concern was expropriated, and the value of it was being estimated no allowance was made for franchise rights; the value of the concern was estimated upon the construction value of the actual works. It must not be supposed, he added, that the Government is going to make an attack upon the rights of property. It must be assured that the Government has due regard for such rights. Such a clause must strengthen the company's franchise, as it will be manifest that they have secured it upon fair and equitable terms. The proposition is, they have a franchise, and are making a profit out of it, but at the same time by this clause there will be a return made to the Government commenstrate with that profit.

Mr. HUNTER expressed the hope that if the clause was inserted that it would apply to but such privileges as were newly granted under the amended act and not effect the privileges which the company already enjoys.

Mr. SWORD raised a point of order at this stage. He called the attention of the committee to the fact that the House had declared that all unappropriated water privileges were the property of the Crown. Such being the case he assumed that unless such clause as proposed by Mr. Forster were inserted in the bill it would be without a saving clause, and, as it dealt with the property of the Crown, the bill would be disallowed as a matter of course.

THE SPEAKER was appealed to for his decision upon the point of order. He announced that he would reserve his ruling until Thursday. The committee rose.

Hon. Col. BAKER informed the House that he had received a letter from the surveyor in charge of the Norwegian colony at Bella Coola. As the House had taken considerable interest in the welfare of these settlers he thought they would be pleased to learn the contents. It stated that there were originally 83 Norwegians in the settlement. Ten of these have returned, four of which number have promised to come back to the colony. Of the 73 remaining 6 have already taken up land. All are well pleased with the country and their land. A great deal had been said concerning the climate of British Columbia. The surveyor for 43 days commencing Nov. 1st showed that 26 days were fine, six days were half-fine and 11 days were wet. This he considered a very favorable state of weather. It was also satisfactory that the colonists were so well pleased. There was one Norwegian who had settled in the section some years ago, and he has lately made application to be received into the colony.

Mr. Sword resumed the debate on the second reading of the Canadian bill. He expressed some surprise in opening that the Hon. Mr. Turner, having made a mistake in his remarks, did not rise to a question of privilege and republish the report. The mistake which he said the Finance Minister had made was in capitalizing the revenue received from the Dominion Government annually. He then proceeded to review the Governments general policy and was called to order by the Speaker for getting beyond the question. He repeated the old story concerning the increase of expenditure under all heads, challenging the wisdom of the same. In referring to the appropriations for immigrations he held the opinion that the Province could put the moneys so appropriated to much better uses. He also questioned the advisability of the appropriations for the London office, using as an argument against the same the fact that the Province of Manitoba had recently decided upon closing its London office.

Mr. PRENTICE placed himself on record as opposed to the second reading of the bill, because he thought the financial policy of the Government was detrimental to the interest of the Province. He proceeded to show that the Government borrowed money for public works and frittered it away on other purposes. He also stated that the expenditures on such works were larger before the passing of the loan bills than they had been since. He proceeded to discuss the speech of the Finance Minister, and incidentally charged Hon. Mr. Turner with making unfair statements.

Hon. Mr. TURNER denied this flatly. "I stated," said he, "that the revenue was a certain amount one year and a certain amount another. Was the statement not absolutely correct?" (Applause)

Mr. PRENTICE was compelled to admit that the statement made was correct, but argued that the Finance Minister should have gone farther. He spoke of a capitalization of the amounts payable to the Province by the Dominion, and suddenly moved the adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE opposed the motion to adjourn, laughingly expressing surprise that the Finance Minister of the Opposition, after undertaking the attack upon the Government, should break down in 10 minutes.

Mr. PRENTICE—Is this in order?

Hon. Mr. DAVIE—It is in order to tell the hon. member this one thing. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. SPEAKER—The question is the adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE—Is it upon this that I am speaking. (Laughter.) I am merely doing the hon. gentleman a good turn (Laughtr.) I am posting him, so that the next time he makes a speech he will not break down in 10 minutes. (Laughter.)

Mr. HUNTER—The member stopped in the middle of the sentence. If he (Mr. Prentice) will complete his sentence I will not oppose the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. PRENTICE—What was the sentence?

Mr. HUNTER—He proceeded to tell us how we were to capitalize the Province. (Laughter). He went on to say that the Province should be capitalized for-for-for-for-for- and then moved the adjournment of the debate. (Great laughter.)

The motion to adjourn was lost.

Mr. PRENTICE said he would leave Mr. Hunter to explain what he meant by the capitalization of the Province (laughter), and the Finance Minister to refute any statement he had made. He concluded by saying that he had no confidence in the financial policy of the present Government. (Renewed laughter)

Hon. Mr. DAVIE—I am sure the hon. member hardly needed to move the adjournment of the debate to utter those few words. (Laughter) The hon. gentleman has told us that every year the estimates of revenue have been above the work, and quotes that as an instance of the incapacity of the Finance Minister. That the hon. gentleman is astray is evident, and he also has a very short memory as well. In support of this latter statement he stated that he met Mr. Prentice two years ago at the 150-Mile House on the Cariboo road, when he (Prentice) had confidence in and was a supporter of the Government. The supposition must be that something had happened since that date to account for his change of heart. Respecting the estimated and actual revenues for the past few years the Premier stated that instead of the estimates being above the revenues the opposite was the case. He then cited the following figures:

| Year. | Estimate Revenue. | Actual Revenue. |
|---|---|---|
| 1889-4 | $1,075,461 | $1,091,296 |
| 1892-4 | 979 291 | 1,078,377 |
| 1891-2 | 914 621 | 964,972 |
| 1890-1 | 850,000 | 846,973 |
| 1888-90 | 691,381 | 706,779 |

The only two years when the revenue was below the estimate was during the last two when the hard, times were upon us; when in common with every country in the world the revenue showed a falling off from the estimates. This is one matter which the hon. gentleman will do well to remember when he makes another speech. We have been told that the expenditures for the last five years considerably exceeded the revenue. The hon. member for Dewdney, Mr. Sword, tells us nothing new. We have borrowed money with the express intention of expending such amounts over our revenue. That matter was thoroughly debated before the country. The attack which the hon. gentleman makes upon the Government in this matter was answered by the people at the general elections. We have considered that we would be justified in doing this. We have concluded that it would be just and right that we should borrow money to be expended upon public works and allow future generations to pay for it. (Applause.) When, however, the hon. gentleman says that the money so borrowed had been expended in the payment of salaries he is stating something which is entirely wrong. Take the subject of public works and the expenditures under this head from the years 1886-7 down to the present. There was expended since that period down to the close of the last fiscal year, June 30, 1894, $995,000. For roads, streets and bridges during the same period there was expended $1,785,000; for surveys, $223,000, and for miscellaneous purposes some $722,700, the grand total of which is some $3,706,000. How much money was borrowed for these purposes? Was it the amount expended? Nothing like it. In addition to this are the expenditures for education, amounting to $1,077,000, which gives a grand total of $4,783,000 expended on public works and education out of the small amount netted by two loans of a million dollars each. He would have something further to say with respect to statements and criticisms made during the debate, which he would now move should be adjourned until Monday next. (Applause.)

Hon. Mr. DAVIE introduced a bill to amend the Provincial Voters act. It received its first reading.

The House then adjourned.

### THIRTIETH DAY.

Victoria, Thursday, Jan. 10.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock.

Mr. KENNEDY secured the first reading of a bill to amend the Public School Act Amendment Act of 1893.

Mr. GRAHAM asked the Minister of Finance this question: Upon what date was the bounty on coves paid last year? What reasons were assigned for the lowering of the bounty?

Hon. Mr. TURNER—On Aug. 22, 1894; the sum was considered too high.

Mr. SEMLIN asked the Attorney-General the following questions: (a) Have the Government any information as to the truth of the report current that the employes of the contractors for the Nakusp & Slocan Railway have large unsettled claims against the company? (b) Have the Canadian Pacific Railway signed the lease for the small Kootenay? (c) Have the Canadian Pacific accepted the line as complete? (d) Have the Government allowed the Nakusp & Slocan Railway company to receive the full amount of the debentures guaranteed? (e) Is there any possibility of the unpaid employes placing a lien upon the railway?

Hon. Mr. DAVIE—(a) Enquiry shows that there are some claims against the contractors for the Nakusp & Slocan railway, but there is no reason for believing that the persons having such claims have any danger of losing them; (b) No lease has been signed beyond the agreement laid before the Legislative Assembly at its last session; (c) The C. P. R. Company on the 31st of December last accepted the road as complete, subject to some trifling deficiencies which cannot be remedied until the spring, but the responsibility of which the Government has agreed to assume to the extent of $3,000. The Government will either deduct this amount from the final estimate coming to the company, or else take satisfactory security therefor; (d) The Nakusp & Slocan Railway Company have not yet received the full amount of debenture guarantee, but are about to do so; (e) I do not think that a lien could be successfully placed upon the railway.

Dr. WALKEM moved the second reading of the Veterinary Surgery bill. He explained that the bill was introduced for the purpose of fixing the proper standard by which the public could know who are qualified to practice veterinary surgery and medicine in this Province. The bill, he said, was designed for the benefit of the public at large, and the owners of stock particularly. By the passage of the bill those who have taken time and trouble to make themselves acquainted with veterinary surgery and medicine are placed upon a standard not hitherto enjoyed. The bill provided for the regulation of the practice of veterinary medicine and surgery, and for the registration of those qualified, and the examination of those desiring to qualify.

Mr. SEMLIN moved the adjournment of the debate. Laid over until Monday.

The House went into committee on the Cattle bill, with Mr. Williams in the chair.

To the second clause of the bill, which provided that no recognition should be made of the cutting off of ears as a brand, Major Mutter objected, saying that an amendment should be made preventing the cutting off of even one ear.

Hon. Mr. MARTIN defended the bill as it stood. He did not consider ear marking as cruel. Such works were necessary to identify cattle. Ear marks furnished a ready means for distinguishing cattle. He considered the bill very good and was going to give it a hearty support.

Dr. WALKEM opposed any marking on the ear on the ground of cruelty. He ridiculed the necessity for such a practice on the score of ease in identification and asked how Mr. Martin would like him to come along and cut his ear off for the purpose of identification. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. MARTIN—In that case I would cut your tongue off. (Renewed laughter.)

Hon. Col. BAKER defended the bill as it stood, but ventured the opinion that there were several human ears which were so long that it would be advisible to cut them off. (Laughter and applause.)

Hon. Mr. DAVIE supported Major Mutter's amendment, saying that while the act was being amended it should be provided that neither of the ears of the animal should be cut off.

Messrs. SEMLIN, PRENTICE, MARTIN and BOOTH all supported the bill as it stood.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE in reply to Mr. Prentice, who said that it was legal to cut off both ears at present, informed Mr. Prentice that he was entirely wrong. "If the cattle concerned have cut off both ears of the cattle they have done so in defiance of the criminal law." He stated that as the bill read it was possible to cut one of the ears off clean.

Mr. KENNEDY rose to speak, when one of his colleagues whispered something to him. "I am told that I do not know anything about cattle," he began nervously. Then glancing around the House he continued: "I would like to say that I know very well what I see around me." (This implication was received with tumultuous laughter.

The bill was eventually reported complete without amendments.

Mr. WILLIAMS presented the report of the select committee on the Parliament building contracts, recommending the employment of a stenographer. The report was received.

On motion to adopt the report Hon. Mr. DAVIE called the attention of the members to the fact that the employment of a stenographer would cost considerable. In view of the fact that the Opposition were continually complaining of the expense of the Government he hoped the committee would contrive to get on without the services of a stenographer.

Mr. KITCHEN supported this objection, but on motion the report was adopted.

Mr. McPHERSON moved the second reading of the Election Regulation bill. He explained briefly that his wish was to insure complete secrecy by destroying marks on the ballot by which any one could trace the manner in which any person voted. He said that the Government was convinced of the secrecy of the ballot, and his amendment was only going to the full length. It meant the adopting of the secret ballot in its entirety.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE said he could not agree with the amendment. While it would give security in one direction, or fancied security, it would entail injury and injustice in another. The ballot at the present time is to all intents and purposes secret. The secrecy cannot be violated except by some person who would transgress the law to the extent of being a criminal. It cannot be transgressed except by officials of the Government sworn to secrecy. There is the only occasion when the ballots can be examined, and that is upon a scrutiny. If a question arises at the present time, whether any particular individual or body of individuals, having cast their votes, were declared disqualified by the courts, and the court comes to the conclusion there should be a scrutiny, and that these ballots should be removed from the ballot boxes and the remaining ballots should be counted, there could be a scrutiny. Under the plan proposed there could be no scrutiny. No matter what irregularities, no matter if the persons not entitled to vote had voted, you could not separate these ballots from the valid ballots. The only remedy for such irregularities under the amendment would be to declare the election void and have a new one. In the case of the irregularities at Chilliwack the alteration of the ballots made no difference with the final result, but one can imagine a case where the circumstances would have been different, where it would be necessary to examine the ballots and count those ballots which had been declared invalid. If you pass this amendment you cannot trace the disqualified ballots. If one or two irregular ballots got into the ballot box you would have been a new election. There was one such instance as this some years ago, where the election depended upon three or four votes, and the Supreme court, after hearing the evidence decided that the three or four ballots were irregular and ought not to be counted. The manner in which these ballots were marked was disclosed. They were taken out by their numbers and set aside, so that the secrecy of the ballot was not disclosed.

Mr. COTTON—Was that the Esquimalt case?

Hon. Mr. DAVIE—Yes; I think that was the only case of the kind occuring in the history of this Province.

Mr. SEMLIN recorded himself as in favor of the bill, citing that the Dominion Government had sanctioned such ballots. There were several members out of their places when the question was put. Capt. Irving voted with the Opposition, and the result was a tie, 13 to 13. Messrs. Davie, Helmcken, Walkem and Rogers were not allowed to vote, not being in their places when the question was put.

In giving the casting vote Mr. Speaker said he would follow the practice of the English Speakers in such instances and vote for the second reading of the bill.

Mr. BRADEN moved for the second reading of the Alien Labor Prohibition bill. Speaking in its support he stated that the bill did not interfere with the right of individuals to employ aliens, but prevented their employment by the Government or by municipal corporations and the payment of such with moneys raised by taxation. He informed the House that his bill was a draft of an act from the statute of the Illinois Legislature of 1889. He cited the circumstance that the Province of Ontario had seen fit to pass an Alien act in 1893. He then proceeded to show the necessity for such a measure, and instanced cases of Canadians who had been discharged from public works in the United States under the operating of Alien laws of that country, contrasting the condition of affairs with the employment of aliens on the Government buildings and other public works here.

Mr. SPEAKER—It is my duty to call the hon. member's attention to section 91, sub-section 25 of the B. N. A. Act, which sets out that the laws respecting aliens is altogether within the province of the Parliament of Canada. The feature of the bill dealing with this subject is therefore out of order. The laws which the hon. member refers to in the different states are federal laws, not state enactments. The State Legislatures have no authority in this matter. We have none in this Province. The Province has no authority in this matter. Such is my ruling; but I would not be sorry to see it disallowed.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE disputed the Speaker's construction that the general language of the clause referred to, respecting naturalization and aliens, conferred exclusive right upon the Federal authorities of dealing with the subject embodied in the bill before the House. "It is clear to my mind that the words do not have the exact effect which might at first be applied to them. To hold such an opinion would be to deny the right of the Province to deal with a matter upon which it does legislate every day. We have a bill upon the orders now to prohibit the Japanese from voting. If you place this and large bills against the company remain outstanding. (Applause.) I have no doubt that the general distrust which the honorable member (Mr. Semlin) entertains of the Government has led him to have suspicions which one minute's consideration would show him are not well founded. The road which the Government has guaranteed to the extent of $17,500 per mile, and which the honorable gentleman stated could be built for somewhere about ten or twelve thousand—one-half of the bill as it now is—$7,000—stood, saying that he would consider it later.

The committee rose and reported progress, awaiting the Speaker's ruling.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE moved the second reading of the bill amending the Provincial Voters' Act. He explained that the object of the bill was to preclude the Japanese from the exercise of the franchise. I think the Japanese stand in the same relation of Chinamen. The object of passing the bill now is to put on the circumstance that at the present time there are treaty negotiations going on between the Imperial and the Japanese Governments. The result of such negotiations may be to place it out of the power of the Legislature to pass such an act as this. At the present moment the treaty has not yet been concluded."

Mr. KITCHEN asked what effect such treaty might have upon any such act. To this the Premier replied that the act would have to take its chances.

Mr. COTTON entered into an explanation of the provisions of the treaty in process of negotiation, saying that among other things it provided for something in the nature of a reciprocity of the rights of citizenship to the citizens of either Government in the others domains.

The act received its second reading.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE moved the second reading of the bill relating to Life Insurance for the benefit of wives and children. The bill, he explained, was to secure to the wives and children of the persons insured the benefits of the insurance. He said he considered it a praise-worthy thing to make such security. The wives and children of a man were to his mind as much a man's creditors as those to whom he owed a certain sum of money. The bill received its second reading.

The Companies Act Amendment bill was reported from committee and the report adopted.

The House went into committee on the bill for the Government of Cities by Commissioners with Mr. SWORD in the chair.

The amendment offered by Mr. KITCHEN to extend the privilege of voting upon the proposition of bringing the city under this act to all those entitled to vote for mayor and aldermen was lost.

Mr. KITCHEN moved a second amendment that the franchise be extended to all those entitled to vote under the Municipal Act until money by-laws, in order that the franchise be uniform.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE asked if the member for Chilliwack seriously meant to disfranchise all the shareholders of Vancouver and New Westminster?

Mr. WILLIAMS—That is just what we want.

Mr. KITCHEN replied that his intention was to secure a uniform franchise.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE said he would draft an amendment with the principle in view.

Mr. WILLIAMS offered an amendment requiring a majority of all those entitled to vote to put the act in force.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE opposed this, for the reason that it was tantamount to counting absentees as voting against the measure. The amendment was lost.

Mr. COTTON referred to the public meeting held in Victoria at which the bill had been denounced, and some very strong talk had been indulged in. He made a great deal of this farce comedy and stated that the four cities having in a manner pronounced against the bill were about to be represented in the House. He (Mr. Cotton) would be glad to see all interests represented. He would be glad to see the Government of the Province carry out the principle of representation by population. He would be glad to see the Government of the Province carry out the principle of representation by population. He would be glad to see the Government of the Province carry out the principle of representation by population