

ated the arguments which his hon. colleague (Mr. DeCosmos) had brought forward about throwing no difficulties in the way of union, but he thought that the proposition before the House would not affect the matter one way or the other, while it would afford a stimulus to those enterprising men who had invested their capital in lumber mills on Vancouver Island (hear, hear). It was necessary to encourage not only this class, but those capitalists who had hitherto been dissuaded from embarking in such enterprises. The motion was then put with the following result: Ayes—Cunningham, McClure, Dennes, Duncan, and Carswell (5). Noes—DeCosmos, Helmcken, Tolmie, Ash, and Cochrane (5). The vote was therefore a tie, and the chairman gave his casting vote in favor of the ayes, so that the import duty on lumber was carried.

THE CATTLE TAX. Dr. Tolmie proposed that the permit on cows be reduced from \$4 to \$1. He said he did so at the earnest solicitation of many farmers, who found the present tax too high. Mr. Cochrane seconded the resolution. He considered that the present import on cows interfered with the principle of the Act, which was to encourage stock raising. Mr. McClure was in favor of the motion; because he thought there should be some distinction made between cattle for stock purposes and cattle for the butcher; but he dissented from the statement made by the member for Saanich—that the tax was levied for the purpose of encouraging stock raising. It was levied principally for raising a revenue (hear, hear). The encouragement to stock raising was of course incidental. He would like to know, however, if the hon. mover (Dr. Tolmie) had any statistics of the number of cows imported? Dr. Tolmie replied that he had not; but he had no doubt a larger number would be imported if the tax were reduced. While on the subject of the cattle tax, he would state that in voting for the abolition of the 1/2 per cent tax, he was not opposed to the cattle tax.

Mr. McClure said the mover of the amendment for the abolition of the 1/2 per cent tax had distinctly embraced the cattle tax. Mr. DeCosmos said he had voted on that understanding.

Dr. Helmcken said he was decidedly opposed to the tax in its entirety. So far as the working of the tax was concerned, it had the effect of inducing the farmers to sell their cattle to the butchers instead of keeping them for stock raising.

Mr. DeCosmos said the Act would have the contrary effect, that of making the cow a productive article instead of converting it into beef.

Dr. Ash upheld the cattle impost, and did not believe in making any alteration in it. His constituents were well pleased with its working.

Mr. Cunningham suggested that the reduction should be only confined to milch cows (hear, hear).

Dr. Tolmie was glad of the suggestion, and he would embody it.

Mr. DeCosmos expressed himself satisfied with the arrangement.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

The committee then reported to the House. Dr. Tolmie gave notice that he would move at the next meeting of the House for a re-consideration of the real estate and half per cent resolutions.

Mr. Duncan gave notice of motion to make it a misdemeanor on the part of the Executive or any public official applying moneys contrary to the votes of the House.

The House then adjourned till Wednesday (this day), at 1 p.m.

Wednesday, February 21, 1866. House met at 1:15 p.m. Present—Messrs. DeCosmos, Tolmie, Trimble, McClure, Dickson, Powell, Dennes, Duncan, Carswell, and Cunningham.

WAYS AND MEANS RESOLUTIONS. On the reading of the first of the resolutions brought up from the Committee of Ways and Means—the abolition of the Real Estate Tax.

Dr. Tolmie moved the re-consideration of this resolution, on the grounds he had previously advanced. He believed the real estate estimate of \$50,000 was more than it would yield. Besides a tax so just in principle should not be removed. It was also very injudicious to keep changing the policy of the country from year to year (hear, hear, from Mr. DeCosmos). He maintained that the colony could not do without the tax; there would be a large deficit in the estimates, and it was better to meet our liabilities at once. The liquor and trading licenses he believed would fall short of the estimate. The fees of court would be diminished by new regulations which the Chief Justice would introduce. Some said that union was imminent; but there was really nothing known about it. With regard to the £4,483 put down in the estimates as being due by British Columbia, he felt quite certain it would not be paid this year, and British Columbia had enough to do to provide for her own wants. If we were united before the end of the year, and he hoped we should be (hear), it would of course make no difference. He would again repeat that no argument had been shown to justify the abolition of the real estate tax. It was unadvisable to make any organic changes until we get union. There had been no complaints made by his constituents against the real estate tax, and the only arguments brought forward were not so much against the tax itself, which all acknowledged to be just in principle, but against the mode in which it was collected. Larger responsibilities than usual had been imposed upon the country this year; \$30,000 had been voted for a mail subsidy, a large amount was due for interest and for building the Governor's residence, and a certain sum was also required to pay off the discharged officials. In view of all these matters he thought it impolitic to do away with the real estate tax, and he hoped the question would be fairly considered by hon. gentlemen. He moved the re-consideration of the resolution.

Dr. Powell seconded.

Mr. McClure acknowledged that the hon. gentleman had made the best of his case. His arguments were very good in the abstract, but some of them were certainly wrong

applied to the exigencies of the case. In the first place great stress had been laid on the Government estimates being in excess of what the revenue would bring. Well, if that were the case it was the Executive's responsibility, not the responsibility of the House; the Executive had, however, better means for calculating the estimated revenue than hon. members, and until something more tangible than mere assertion could be shown the House was bound to accept the estimated revenue as near the mark. The hon. gentleman had alluded to his constituents (those of a country district) not desiring the abolition of the real estate tax—so far as that was concerned, Victoria, he believed, paid about eight-tenths of the whole tax. But the hon. gentleman and those of the same way of thinking had persistently ignored the repeatedly expressed intention of the proposers of the abolition to make the towns and districts of the colony pay on the real estate for municipal purposes. The scheme was, as had been said over and over again, to cheapen the expenses of Government (hear, hear). Again the hon. member had declaimed against chopping and changing the mode of taxation of the country. Why it was one of the characteristics of a new country to be always undergoing transformation, and good laws were laws that suited the present not the past. If necessity called for a change in the laws every six months they should be changed. The hon. gentleman, however, was caught in his own words; for he had supported the half per cent on imports last year, and now he wanted to "chop and change" and abolish it (laughter). At the same time he (Mr. McClure) thought every hon. gentleman had a perfect right to change his views on any subject—otherwise there would be no such thing as progress.

Dr. Tolmie still objected to frequent and inconsiderate changes. He had failed to hear a single good argument against the real estate tax. The country was too poor for municipalities except in Victoria and Nanaimo. None of the districts out of Victoria were rich enough to keep their roads in repair, and part of the tax on real estate should therefore go into the general revenue. He was pleased to hear the hon. gentleman who had just sat down truly remark that there should be no organic changes until union took place. So far as the charge of inconsistency was concerned, abstract principles must sometimes give way to expediency and change of circumstances.

The motion on being put was lost, Dr. Tolmie and Dr. Powell voting contra, and the original resolution was confirmed.

TRADES LICENSE. The original resolution reducing this tax from \$10 to \$5 was passed.

SALARY TAX. Dr. Tolmie moved that this tax be re-considered, as it was the fairest and most equitable of any tax that had been put on, as it in most cases reached persons who paid no taxes at all; in the majority of cases it was paid by the employer.

Dr. Powell seconded the motion. He believed in the justice of the tax; it was levied especially to meet a class of persons who paid no taxes.

Mr. McClure twitted the mover and secondor for the inconsistency of their views. Their style of argument was rather unique. If the tax were paid by the employers, as was stated by the mover, then the object of the tax failed. If it were paid by the employes, as stated by the secondor, then we had the amusing fact of mover and secondor entirely opposed as to the effect of the tax. The cost and inconvenience far outweighed the benefits derived by the tax. Taxation should be reduced to one general system if possible, instead of having a number of complicated schemes.

Dr. Dickson believed the principle of the tax a most just one, as it reached persons who otherwise contributed nothing to the revenue, and he should certainly not now support its abolition, had he not been given to understand that it failed as a means of revenue and was nearly all swallowed up in the collection.

Dr. Tolmie differed from the junior member for the city, and hoped to see a direct system of taxation. In Canada he was glad to see, in view of the abolition of the reciprocity treaty, a desire to reduce the import duties and to increase their direct taxation. He did not believe the tax was swallowed up in collection, as stated by one hon. member, or even cost 20 per cent as stated by another.

Mr. DeCosmos said the tax was both unfair in principle and ridiculously small in amount. He had opposed it last year on that ground. Its injustice was apparent when the employer had to pay only half per cent on all his sales, while the employe had to pay one per cent on his income. The tax pressed most unfairly upon persons who were only temporarily employed, and was altogether obnoxious.

The original resolution was carried.

Ayes—DeCosmos, Trimble, McClure, Dickson, Duncan, Dennes, Carswell, Cunningham. Noes—Ash, Tolmie, Powell.

ANNUAL LIQUOR LICENSE. The original motion for the reduction of country licenses outside the city limits, not including Esquimalt and Nanaimo, to \$50 per annum, was carried.

LOANS. On the loan for \$100,000 at not more than 12 per cent coming up.

Dr. Tolmie said he had taken some trouble to enquire, and he was satisfied that the money could not be raised in any market except at the most disadvantageous terms. The hon. gentleman went into the subject of trunk roads, condemning the proposed trunk road to Nanaimo or Comox as an unnecessary expenditure, although he hoped before long to see a line of railway running from our coal fields (hear, hear). There was a good trunk road at present in existence, which was open at all seasons of the year and needed no repairs, only marking out here and there. Water travel was always cheaper than land travel, and the proposed road would run through a tract of country a good portion of which was unsuited for farming purposes. It had been rightly said that the only belt of agricultural land, about ten miles in width, lay between Johnson Straits and Sooke. [Mr. DeCosmos—So far as known.] The mountainous and unproductive nature of a large portion of the island was well known to most honorable members.

Dr. Ash believed it would be impossible in the present condition of the colony to raise the \$100,000 required.

Mr. DeCosmos was surprised at such a remark from the last speaker. The object was not to injure the credit of the country elsewhere, now he (Mr. DeC.) had always in his place to say as little as possible that would injure the credit of the country abroad. He proceeded to chide the hon. member for the District on the road question, and said there were certain hon. members holding large tracts of land in the neighborhood of Victoria who succeeded in getting good macadamized roads made to their doors, and would like to have them go "up stairs," but did not care about the rest of the country being opened up (laughter). He ridiculed the idea about not borrowing money, and said if we were to wait for union, for Heaven's sake let more money be raised to bring people into the country, unless we were to return to the state of affairs that existed when he arrived eight years ago, and had to land in a canoe.

Dr. Tolmie said it was refreshing to hear the hon. gentleman, who, with his hon. colleague, was so opposed to personalities, now indulging in such a string of direct and absurd personalities, which he, however, would refute in a few words. Everybody knew that the "upstairs" alluded to by the hon. gentleman was a mile from the main road [laughter] which ran fifteen miles into a fine agricultural district. He did not believe in these expensive trunk roads proposed by hon. gentlemen who had never been further into the country than Beacon Hill (laughter) and he would further observe that his opinion had nothing whatever to do with shop, and that he did not allow shop to interfere with such paltry matters as newspapers.

Mr. DeCosmos said the hon. gentleman belonged to a vigorous and enlightened company that were seventeen years in the country and had not, when he [Mr. DeC.] landed on the island a trail even to Saanich (laughter).

The resolution to raise \$100,000 was carried.

Ayes—DeCosmos, Cunningham, Carswell, McClure, Dickson, Duncan, Dennes and Powell.

Noes—Tolmie and Ash.

Dr. Tolmie moved the re-consideration of the resolution to raise £50,000; it was unnecessary to repeat the same arguments that he had just now brought forward as they applied also to this case.

Dr. Ash opposed the motion, and said that the majority in the Assembly had by their action damaged the credit of the country. He concluded by expressing an opinion that those who would be foolish enough to advance money on a road from Victoria to Nanaimo deserved to lose it.

Mr. McClure said whatever arguments might be brought forward against the first proposition, there were certainly none to meet the present proposal, which was to have the money borrowed paying six per cent instead of twelve. With regard to the remarks of the junior member for Metehost about the majority of the Assembly injuring the credit of the colony, they were in keeping with the hon. member's usual reasoning. It was the first time that cutting down expenses tended to destroy credit (laughter). If the hon. gentleman had got his way the country would be over head and ears in debt in order that a large official staff might be retained.

Mr. DeCosmos repudiated the idea that borrowing money was an injury to a country. A hundred years ago when the national debt of England was a mere trifle in comparison to its present dimensions, there were people there as here prognosticating all sorts of calamities about getting into debt. The debt, however, increased year by year, and the country never was more prosperous than she is to-day. In the United States all the great works of the country—railways and canals—were made with borrowed money, and the prosperity of the country was unparalleled. With regard to getting the money there was no difficulty about the matter at all.

Dr. Tolmie replied to the senior member. The resolution was then put and carried by the same majority as before, Drs. Ash and Tolmie only in the negative.

TAX ON HAY. Dr. Powell thought the tax of \$5 per ton on imported hay like the vegetable tax, which only yielded \$250, would produce little revenue.

Mr. DeCosmos said that was just what the House wanted. They desired the hay, like the vegetables, to be grown on the island (hear, hear).

The resolution was carried, Dr. Powell only opposing.

LUMBER TAX. The resolution for an import tax of \$2.50 on rough and \$5 on dressed lumber was carried, Dr. Powell and Dr. Ash contra.

TAX ON COWS. The reduction of tax on imported cows from \$4 to \$1 was carried, Dr. Powell contra. The resolutions were then carried as a whole.

HALF PER CENT TAX. Dr. Tolmie gave notice that he would move the re-consideration of this tax on Friday next. The House then adjourned to one o'clock on Friday.

MONTANA WITHOUT A LEGISLATURE.—The Territory of Montana presents the anomaly of a community without a legislature or the power to create one. The legislature and the Executive failed last winter to continue the legislative functions, and the consequence is that no session can be held till again authorized by Congress. Acting Governor Meagher thus states the case:—The legislature, convened by Gov. Edgerton in conformity with the provisions of the organic act, expired on the 24th of October. The apportionment bill, providing for the new legislature, having been vetoed by Gov. Edgerton, and the legislature having failed to pass it over his veto by the necessary two-third vote, it is clearly my conviction that the legislative functions of the Territory have temporarily lapsed. To revive the functions I am clearly of opinion that an enabling act of Congress empowering the Governor to re-district the Territory, apportion the representatives and convene them for business, is essentially required, and that no other proceeding can legitimately restore them, strange and embarrassing as the circumstances are in which their suspension places us.

ODDS AND ENDS

"Ma, dear, may we not have a big bunch of kissettes hung up on Christmas Day?" "When will that child learn to pronounce properly? Say mistletoe, dear." "I'm sure it sounded like kissettes when young Mr. Spriggs caught Lucy under it."

An Italian collector returning from Egypt, has brought back the statue of no less a personage than Potiphar's wife. An inscription on the base leaves no doubt as to its authenticity. The features are said to be exceedingly ugly.

"Sir," said a pompous personage, who undertook to bully an editor, "do you know that I take your paper?" "I've no doubt you do take it," replied the man of the quill, "for several of my honest subscribers have been complaining lately about missing their papers in the morning."

COURTESY.—Hail! ye small sweet courtesies of life, for smooth do ye make the road of it, like grace and beauty which beget inclinations to love at first sight; 'tis ye who open the door and let the stranger in.—Sterne.

CULTIVATED WOMEN.—Sheridan said, beautifully, "Women govern us; let us render them perfect; the more they are enlightened, so much the more shall we be. On the cultivation of the minds of women depend the wisdom of men. It is by women that nature writes on the hearts of men."

The Princess of Wales celebrated her twenty-first birthday a few weeks ago, and was surprised by the gift from her husband of a fine pair of bay ponies, with carriage and harness complete. The ponies alone are said to have cost about \$3,000.

An enterprising person in Paris has opened an office on the Boulevard where the people may take a box, a stall, or seat in any theatre in Paris, without the trouble of going down to the house and waiting an hour or two to get it. The idea is regarded as an excellent one.

While passing with a friend between P— and S—, we passed a benighted and dilapidated house that in its better days had been used as an inn. Its crumbled appearance attracted our attention, and particularly an old sign upon which all that could be seen was "X Ale." "Do you know what became of the proprietor of that inn?" said I to my friend. "X Ale(d) too much," said he, "and kicked the bucket."

BANE AND ANTIDOTE.—"Doctor, I want you to prescribe for me." The physician feels her pulse, and says: "There is nothing the matter, madam; you only need rest."

"Now, Doctor, just look at my tongue; look at it now; and say what does that need?"

"I think that needs rest, too."

Exit the lady in a state of great excitement.

"SIX IS OF NO ACCOUNT."—A gifted African, of the boot-black persuasion, while dancing like St. Vitus over a customer's boots the other day, observed his partner poring wisely over a newspaper, whereupon the following colloquy ensued: "First member of the firm—'Julius, what you lookin' at dat paper for?—you can't read.'"

Second member—"Dat ain't nuffin. A cow's big enough to catch a mice, but she can't do it."

"YOUR FARE, MISS!"—A young lady from the rural districts of Hoosierdom lately visited Chicago with her beau. Getting into a city railroad car for the first time, she took her seat, while her lover planted himself on the platform with the driver. Very soon the conductor began to collect fare, and approaching the rustic maiden, he said, "Your fare, miss." The Hoosier rosebud allowed a delicate pink to manifest itself upon her cheeks, and looked down in soft confusion. The conductor was rather astonished at this, but ventured to remark once more—"Your fare, miss." This time the pink deepened to carnation, as the rustic beauty replied: "Wa'al, if I am good-lookin', you had'n't ought to say it out loud afore folks!"

LARGE INCOMES.—Many persons like to know—and there are some who do not—what sums of money Royalty and other high personages receive yearly to keep up that state and dignity for which England is so remarkable. Her Majesty's Privy Purse has yearly £385,000; the Prince of Wales £400,000; the Princess of Wales £100,000; the Duke of Cambridge £120,000; the Princess Royal £8,000; the Princess Alice Mand Mary £6,000; the Duchess of Cambridge £6,000; the Princess Mary of Cambridge £3,000; and the Duchess of Mecklenburg Strelitz £3,000. The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has £20,000; the Lord Chancellor, the two Lord Justices of Appeal, and the Master of the Rolls, £6,000 each; the three Vice Chancellors have £5,000 each; the Chief and Puisne Judges of the Court of Queen's Bench about £28,000; of the Common Pleas and Exchequer £27,000; and the Judge of the Probate Court £5,000; the Assistant Judge £1,200; the Speaker of the House of Commons £3,200; the Comptroller General £2,000.

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Judson's Simple Dyes.

Ten colours, Price 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and 5s. per bottle. These Dyes will also be found useful for imparting colour to Feathers, Fibres, Grasses, Seweed, Ivory, Bone, Wood, Willow Shavings, Paper, also for

Tinting Photographs, and for Illuminating. May be had of all chemists throughout the United Kingdom and British Colonies.

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FISHING RODS & TACKLE, Walking Sticks, Cricketing Goods, Croquet, Archery, &c., FIRST-CLASS ARTICLES ONLY.

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IRON FOUNDRY.

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Applications for purchase will be received by the undersigned, who will show the articles and afford all necessary information, at any time before Wednesday, February 28th, at 11 a.m., when, if not previously disposed of, the property will be sold at Public Auction.

ADAM WATSON, Trustee and Assignee, Store Street.

Edgar & Aime, ASSIGNMENT.

FOR SALE, Two Six-Mule Teams,

WITH WAGONS AND HARNESS ALL COMPLETE.

The animals and one wagon can be seen at Coe's Ranch, on the Fraser, also one wagon at the Pemberton House, in charge of Mr. Simes. The teams are known as "THE SMITH TEAMS." For further particulars apply to

W. R. H. ADAMSON, Assignee, Government street, Victoria, V.I.

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WANTED IMMEDIATELY, A NUMBER of first-class Island raised POLTRY Apply at D. SPENCER'S LIBRARY, 1827 1/2

again found a double admitted in the same call upon the House yesterday enforced, or he necessity of moving in of privilege.

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