## Provincial Legislature

All Day Discussion on Mr. Jos. Martin's Celebrated Redistribution Resolution.

Some Amusing Passages at Arms Between the Members Durthe Debate

Victoria, Feb. 14th. Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2.12 p. m. Frayers being read by Rev. W. Leslie Clay, petitions were presented: of Kaslo, asking for legislation to as-By Mr. Green-From eighty residents. sure the befter observance of the Lord's

By Mr. Kellier-From John McDowell, a carpenter, formerly employed at the correspondence was laid before the Western Telephone Company.

In a report from the private bills committee, it was recommended that the petition for incorporation of the Western Telephone & Telegraph Co. be not granted, in consequence of the rules as to advertising not having been complied

On motion that the report be received. it was proposed in amendment by Mr. J. M. Martin that the petition be received upon payment of double fees.

Col. Baker hoped to have some explanation from the private bills committee, which must have had good reason for the rejection of this bil.

Mr. Green said the committee found that the standing rules had not been complied with, and after consideration could recommend no other course than that proposed by the report, Mr. Turner said the House had fre-

quently suspended general rules to as-

sist projects clearly in the public in-Mr. A. W. Smith declared the neglect and fieldy in advertising was almost un-parabeled in this instance, and pointed out the danger of allowing all rules of the House to be set at naught. There had never been a petition presented to the British Columbian Legislature so far

Mr. Speaker announced that the rules could not be suspended, further debate and the government or departmental arising upon this verbal ruling.

objected to. "Then we know who objects," asked

Mr. McPhillips. "I do," said Mr. Pooley, who announced as his reason that he was not in favor of passing upon any measure that he had had no opportunity to in-

Mr. Martin promised to renew his mo-

Question of Privilege.

directed attention to the fact that in the

Reports Presented. mining committees were presented, the over this important resolution. We have former announcing certain returns and hardly yet got to the regular orders; other documents as having been ordered when we get to them we will be able to printed, and the latter containing the take up that other matter. recommendation that the quorum of the ... Mr. Martin-If I had had any idea of

The return asked for in a resolution of Mr. R. Smith, with respect to certain ter he should simply ask to drop the mocommunications from W. J. Ledingham, tion from the paper and put it on again. presented by the Premier, and Hon. Mr. Cotton said on the table the annual report of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works

A Missing Letter. said that early in the session he had at the earliest possible moment. But taken exception to the entire absence in if the hon, gentleman says he is not prethe speech from the throne of any re- pared to go on, I do not wish to put him ference to the results attendant upon to any inconvenience, and I will ask that the operation of the eight-hour law, and if he is ready to go on to-morrow he will had censured the government for not introducing some legislation on the subject, calculated to terminate the existing ment made any such arrangement as he deadlock in the Slocan. A few days later he had moved for a return of ail correspondence in this matter necessary for the intelligent consideration of the eight-hour measure, and its results. These returns had finally reached the House in printed form, and he had since ed debate on Mr. Joseph Martin's redisspent some time in poring over them in tribution motion of want of confidence. order to gain a clear idea of the situatior. It had since he had been thus insinuated that I had been 'put up' to engaged come to his knowledge that one of the most important documents had been omitted from the return. The absent document was a letter from the Minister of Mines, and he had been given what purported to be a typewritten copy of this letter, addressed to Mr. J. Campbell of Nelson on the 5th of June, and signed by the Minister of Mines. It read:

Victoria, B. C., June 5th, 1899. Sir: I beg to acknowledge your letter the 26th ultimo, stating that the council of the Nelson Board of Trade would esteem it a favor if the government would inform them as to the reason the government had in the first place in assenting to the eight-hour law, and secondly, after the action of that law had been held in abeyance for a time, ultimately to decide upon its enforcement. I have called the attention of the executive to these questions, and they have decided that there is no object to be gained by reopening this matter for the present, as it will be gone into thoroughly at the next session of the Legislative Assembly, when more definite view as to the working of the act can be ascertained. I am, sir,

Your obedient servant, (Sgd.) J. FRED. HUME. Minister of Mines. J. J. Campbell, Esq., Secretary Nelson District Mining Association, Nelson,

In any event the omission was a graye one, the junior member for Esquimalt concluded, and he hoped to hear from the government.

Later in the day Mr. Higgins gave notice of the following resolution: "Whereas on the 8th day of January Honor to cause to be laid before this ment.) House copies of all correspondence between the government of British Co, not reached that hon, member really yet, sons, miners' or mine towners' unions, relating to the enforcement of the provisions of section 4 of an act intituled, Inspection of Metalliferous Mines

"And whereas on or about the 1st day of February a return which purported to be a full and complete return of said House:

"And whereas there were omitted from important bearing on the controversy with regard to the enforcement of the section 4 of an act intituled the 'Inspection of Metalliferous Mines Amendment Act, 1899, said letter being addressed to the secretary of the Nelson District Mining Association by the Minister of Mines, and reading as following (the letter being here set forth):

"Therefore be it resolved that the suppression of the letter above quoted is a deliberate violation of the prerogatives a promise to consider the eight-hour law House hereby censures and condemns the the speech from the throne to the existing condition of affairs in Kootenay, and for their failure to introduce legislation to rectify the evils under which both miners and mine owners labor."

Returns Ordered. On the motion of Mr. Eberts a return was ordered of all correspondence, tenders, etc., in connection with the letting of the contract for keeping open the sleigh road between Barkerville and Cottonwood House, and all contracts let for such service; and upon the motion of as he was aware that was so much out Col. Baker a return of all correspondence between John Lister, of Nakusp, officers, in relation to the purchase of The motion of Mr. J. M. Martin was one hundred and sixty acres of land on finally ruled out of order, having being Kooskanas Creek, B. C.

Mr. Martin's Motion. On the clerk calling the order for Mr. Joseph Martin's motion respecting the Finance Minister. Mr. Martin said: "I ask that that

may stand." Hon. Mr. Cotton-No, Mr. Speaker, 1 think this a matter that the hon. gention on the requisite two days' notice, tleman should go on with. In justice and the debate was accordingly adjourn- to me it should not be allowed to stand. ed by the Attorney-General for three I am helpless in that matter. As it makes charges against me, I think it is proper for him to bring it forward without delay.

Province newspaper, the whole of Mr. prepared to go on with this matter to-Neil's speech on the Coa. Mines Regu- day had it not been for the suggestion lation Amendment Bill had been credit- of the government that the redistribued to him. He would not be ashamed tion matter would come up to-day. For to own this speech, but he did not wish this reason I had supposed that it was to take credit that did not belong to the government's wish that this should not come up.

Hon. Mr. Semlin-I do not see that Reports from the printing and the that would be any reason for passing

mining committee be reduced from nine that kind I would have been prepared. to seven. Both reports were adopted. I am not now prepared. If the government persisted in going on with the mat-"I cannot go on without any material," 'he concluded.

Hon. Mr. Cotton-I think the hon. gentleman can see that I was only making a reasonable request in asking that such Mr. Higgins, on a question of privilege, a matter as this should be brought on proceed then, and not give two days' notice. I am not aware that the governrefers to, but I am willing to let the matter stand for a day.

The order was passed over. Redistribution

Mr. Kellie then resumed the adjourn-He said: "Yesterday the hon, mover adjourn the debate-"

Mr. Martin-I said I accepted Mr. Kellie's statement yesterday, and there is therefore no necessity to bring that matter up again.

Mr. Kellie remarked that if the House would look at the report of the matter in the Colonist it would be seen that the hon, gentleman had accepted it in one way and not in another. He did not know what great effort it took to move the adjournment of a debate. It was not the first time in that House that he had done so, and he had made the motion chiefly because he wanted to get some figures to show that the move to bring in a redistribution bill was a move in the right direction. But he confessed that Mr. Martin was trying to make being the case I will beg to amend the political capital for an election which he (Mr. Martin) expected to come in a very short time. If Mr. Martin had been anxious to get a redistribution bill brought on, and actuated only by a dehave approached the government privately and asked it to introduce a meas-

House half a dozen times.

Hon. Mr. Henderson No, no. Kootenay to the two we had already." was true that before the last election,

there?" (Loud laughter.) Mr. Green rose and said: "Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of privilege. (Loud laughter.) I must insist upon the hon, member for Revelstoke taking that mainly-it did not so much matter; to

last the following resolution was unan-imously passed by the House: 'That a respectful address be presented to His Honor the Lieut. Governor, asking His ed a half member," (Renewed merri-Mr. Kellie-Well, Mr. Speaker, I had lumbia, or any member thereof, and the but I will take it back. (Laughter.) 1

government of the Dominion of Canada; am willing to admit that he is a whole or any member thereof; also, all corress member. What he wanted to point out pendence between the government of was that the government cut up part property, educational facilities, intelligent plied: British Columbia and any person on per- of one of the Yale divisions and part of his old district and made it into a constituency, but had refused to give any increase. The then opposition had made a hard fight and at last the government had given this additional member for the Slocan (Mr. Green). He added that country, with a constantly changing pophe for one had always been in favor of a fair redistribution bill, and was in favor of it now, and he favored the government moving in that direction and bringing in a bill. We could then have dent in any legislature for a government the said return a letter which had an an election and fight the thing out on its merits, and let the best man win." Mr. Martin-Hear, hear. That is the

thing. Mr. Kellie. I do not want any favor of any man, any government, or any per-son, but what we should have is another redistribution bill brought down on a fair hasis, taking into consideration all the circumstances.

Hon, Mr. Semlin pointed out this was not the first time by any means that this matter had been discussed in this or of this House and an attempt to evade previous Houses. It had come up repeatedly and had been well discussed. at the present session, and that this The members now sitting on the government side had when in opposition taken government for their failure to refer in the ground that the redistribution of seats now in force had not been based upon a fair and equitable basis, and did not succeed in giving a fair representation to all parts of the country. Premier went on to refer to the idea which once prevailed that the Island and Mainland should be treated separately in regard to this matter. He conceded that earlier governments, had, had difficulties to meet in dealing with this matter. The present condition of the province was very different to what it was in the early days, and the goverament had in the arrangement of representation a difficult matter to deal with. They were no doubt quite willing ito give the province a fair system of redistribution, but those governments always had to consider the needs of these who felt that they would be disturbed if a fair system of redistribution was passed in

the House. That had always been a

difficulty and possibly would be so in succeeding measures of this kind. The Premier gave reasons for his belief that the last bill introduced by the late government was not a fair one, and went on to note that Mr. Martin in his business was conducted. That was a probably consummated. That he thought was inflenced by feelings of sectionalism disadvantage Members on the governfair system of redistribution. But such est of individualsa measure, as hon, gentlemen opposite Hon, Mr. Henderson, rising to a point knew, required time and careful consid- of order, said that he asked Mr. Speaker eration. He therefore moved in amend- if the hon, gentleman was entitled to ment to strike out all words after the make such a statement as that?

first "whereas" and insert: "The party which supports the present government has for many years insisted upon a more representative system of electoral representation; and whereas vent to power of the present government, it resolved that this House is of the opinion that the interests of the province require that a fair and equitable measure for the redistribution of electoral districts shall be introduced at an early date during the present session."

The government, Hon, Mr. Semlin con-

measure of redistribution as the moveof the resolution was, but it did not think the business of the House should be suspended in the manner suggested in order to consummate that matter. In saying that, the government did not re- trawn from this side the probability is treat at all from the position that had that we would have had a redistribution always been taken by the members now bill before the House before thison that side of the House. They hal | Mr. Jos. Martin-Hear, hear. That's always considered this a most important, true too. question. The member for Vancouver had said in the preamble of his resolu- House should be asked to drop all other tion that "the government has an ex- business in order to get up a redistributremely narrow majority (if any) and tion measure at short notice." may at any time meet with defeat," al- tribution bill was a very difficult measso that "the party which the present ure to frame. government purports to represent took strong ground when in opposition against the present unfair redistribution of measure must necessarily have mature seats." As to that, the circumstances and thoughtful consideration. He would were certainly different in the mouse, like to see a good redistribution of but he was not aware that they were in seats; he would also like to see the busithe country. If he was right in the ness of the House go on. The present premise they should just as well have did not seem to him to be the been censured for not bringing in a re distribution bill last year as for not

bringing one in this session. "Bit," went on the Premier, "we are prepared to bring in such a measure at a very early day (applause), and such

Mr. Turner could fully sympathize with the leader of the government in the the government he would go in "smooks" great difficulty he had experienced in with the opposition. sire for the good of the country, he would reference to this motion. He knew that when Mr. Semin sat on the opposition an opposition member, "what does it side of the House he had very frequent- meen?" ly suggested that a redistribution measure and the suggested that a redistribution measure with this large half a dozen times.

If y suggested that a redistribution measure with the suggested that a redistribution wi spoken of as if it were a very easy con- tin's constituents had so changed in their Mr. Kellie-Well, all right. In regard cern to bring in a fair redistribution feeling toward that gentleman, that to this redistribution, when the matter measure. But now he knew personally now that he was in opposition he reprewas brought forward in the House two from the leader of the government that sented about 400 less than nothing of a years ago he had pointed out to the he had found that it was a much majority of his constituents. No member government that a district from which more difficult thing to satisfy the coun- had a right to cross the floor of the and, notwithstanding that these lists were of affairs continue any longer than was

placed upon this withheld letter, it pro- lation, had only one member. "In their position. There was perhaps a great voters who had elected him an opport yet they were now told that the reason mised legislative action on the subject generosity," said Mr. Kellie, "the late deal more made of this redistribution tunity to show their approval or disap- why the Victoria lists were cancelled last during the present session— the proval. Any other course he regarded as year was because it had not been done done

owing to the urgent pressure of mem-Mr. Eberts (pointing to Mr. Green)- | bers of the opposite side of the House, "Excuse me, is that the half member it was forced on the electors in different there?" (Lond laughter.) parts of the country. Under the old government every section had received fair and impartial treatment, and this was in reality what the people wanted them whether they had one or two representatives, or whether it was the member for Cariboo or from some other, to do so half a dozen times already this Mr. He gesen-What about the dead district who voted to give a road or some other work for them. What mainly concerned the people was that their interests should be looked af-What they wanted first of all was ply. good government-protection for life and measures to promote the prosperity and the development of the country by every means within the revenue of the coun try. Representation upon the basis of population was not the one great thing for the country, especially as in a new ulation this was a most difficult matter to accomplish. As for the resolution and amendment, he fould not agree with either. There certainly was no precevirtually without a majority-at all bringing in legislation to change the representation of the country; such a thing would not only be unheard of but a dis-No important legislation wis grace. dared by the government, and all for the reason that they were afraid of defeat on anything of moment, so evenly bal-anced were the parties. Naturally, such a condition was not in the interest of the country, and should be terminated. as speedily as possible. But of all measures, a redistribution measure was the last that should be so much as suggested by a government so situated.

Mr. Munro pointed out that the leader asked Mr. Eberts. voiced a great truth. He had said that and representative meeting. ation of the people. Even so, What (Laughter.) mattered it where the agitation had i province was divided, so long as the virious districts got each their share of attention. He contended that it made in ernment represented the minority or the majority. Just such a state of affai's was that had made it possible for the Turner party to hang to power, while they in reality represented but an insignificant minority. This having been the experience of the late government, at been destroyed, while the effort was such unfair distribution.

Mr. McPhillips announced that he for tribution bill was brought down and government of the day to deny that it would be putting the House to a great The House had seen measures brought before it by the government that were ment side had always contended for a not in the public interest but in the inter-

"Why not?" inquired Mr. Pooley. Why

not when it's true?" Hon, Mr. Henderson-It's not true. this government.

Mr. Helgesen thought if would be when it had been laid before the members: ten to one when that time came the junior member for Victoria would tinued, was just as anxious for a fair ferced to so confess. As for the govern ment having so narrow a majority, the hon, introducer of the resolution was himse f largely to blame for that the House. They could judge of the hon.

Mr. Jos. Martin-Hear, hear. Mr. Helgesen-If he had not with-

Mr. Helgesen could not see why the

Mr. Jos. Martin-Hear, hear. Mr. He'gesen continued that such a time for a thorough redistribution. A census would soon be held, and after that the subject could be attacked with intelligent knowledge of the facts, for there would be some basis of consideration as to population, distribution of wealth etc., which would be a substantimotion of the hon, member for Vancou- Mr. Martin, however, had declared-if he might be permitted to use a vulgar phrase—that for the purpose of defeating

"Super for the opposition?" repeated

one-third of the ordinary revenue came try than he supposed or stated it was chamber unless he went to his constitu- cleaned in 1894, made perfectly correct absolutely necessary. He held that

untouched. "I presume the government can ex-

plain," replied Mr. Kellie. "Why don't they then?" retorted Mr. Jos. Martin; "they've been challenged

carry the government of British Colum- were dropped from the list. You don't bia in my pocket," was Mr. Kellie's re- expect dead men will live here? The The third member for Vancouver re- time

"Oh yes you do-every individual member on that side does, and you all know Mr. Prentice here interposed a ques-

tion of the member for Revestoke, Did understand that gentleman to say that a member had no right to vote against the government without first returning to his constituents? Mr. Kellie explained that he did not mean just that. What he meant was

that no member should go over to the side he was elected to oppose, and breeches"-as Mr. Martin had said -without giving the electors an opportunity of saying whether or not they ap-

inquired Mr. Brydon? Mr. Kellie answered that he jumped Mr. Eberts-Yes, I can explain that the fence to go back to his constituents but I don't think you can. (Laughter) and take their advice. He called a We will call you presently and you can meeting and there were only five then tell us what you know about it. There who were in favor of his resigning: | was no year in which a good working "Were there only five at the meeting?" | redistribution bill could not be introduc-

of the opposition had unconsciously. Mr. Kellie replied that it was a large, progress of this province. He had been the agitation for redistribution had com- Then Mr. Turner wanted to know menced not with the people, but with the what was meant by "body and breeches." members of the then opposition, and had Mr. Kellie replied that the body could Kootenay. Now the whole of that dis-

Mr. Booth continued the debate. To. started, as it was evident the people had adopt the legislation evidently favored endorsed the movement? Mr. Turner, by the representatives of Kootenay he said that it made no difference how the beld would not be fair to the people of the Coast and Fraser, who had pawned the earnings of generations to assist in the proving of Kootenay. Petty party. difference to the people whether the goy- politics seemed to be at the root of the present movement. Anything for the preservation of the government. The whole point of the movement was shown in the treatment that had been meted out respectively to the Victoria Vancouver voters' lists, the voters' lists

of Victoria (an opposition city) having

made to build up Vancouver. a ism had been evidenced by the other hon, gentlemen opposite would have perone could not and would not look for a side. As for the voters' lists he said formed it. fair and just measure of redistribution that those of Victoria had been cancel. He could not vote for the resolution from this government after the illustra- led because they had been in existence neither could be vote for the amendtion of unfairness that had been afford ever since Victoria had an existence ment. He did not think a government ed in the matter of the cancellation of practically, and had never been cancel- situated as this one was could bring in resolution had made an imperative de. the voters' lists of Victoria city. The led before, whereas the Vancouver list a just and fair bill, It was not proper mand on the House a demand that he voters' lists in question had been can was virtually new-although he would that the representation of the country considered unfair when he (Mr. Martin) celled with no fair time allowance in say that if he had had anything to do should be placed in the hands of a num insisted that a redistribution measure which to complete a registration of with the matter all should have been ber of gentlemen who had not a major should be brought down before any other names; this work had been taken in cancelled. (Loud applause.) The junior ity of those who represented the elechand by the members of the opposition member for Victoria should not condemn tors of the people. If the government demand which meant that no matter how in Victoria city, and as many names as the redistribution measure that the gov- had that he might support a resolution pressing other matters might be, the possible had been secured, without re-House must suspend those matters and gard at all to the political views of the had had a chance to see it. It was under the had not a majority could keep them in suspension until a redis- voters registered. It was useless for the fair that that member should say that if it was fair and just.

Mr. McPhillips rose to a question of privilege. What he said was, he had no this government was not the choice of confidence in this government and that the measure to be brought down by it would not be fair nor just nor equitable. Mr. Macpherson-For those reasons he would not support the bill he says; that amounts to the same thing. The hon. gentleman's explanation does not put him in any better position. I do not had at least seen it. He emphasized the know what kind of measure the government will bring down with regard to re- of Kootenay, and held that it was a mis-Mr. McPhillips contended that it was. distribution, but as far as I am contake to suppose that only those who had He was glad to see that he had touched cerned I hold the same views in regard been here in the sixtles were entitled to this House recognizes that since the ad. the government on the raw, and he to the redistribution that was passed by consideration. Though it was possible maintained that he was entitled to judge the late government that it was not fair. | that in the past it had been over-reprecircumstances and administrative de the government by past events, these that it was not just and that it was not sented, he claimed that Kootenay to-day mands made upon it have hitherto pre- past events all indicating that no meas- equiable. I hope that the measure that led the province not only in population vented action in this matter; therefore be ure of justice could be looked for from is brought down to this House will be but in importance of interests and reva measure based on justice, equity and enue contribution to the province. If fairness, and that every gentlemen on the in the past it had received more than it time enough for Mr. McPhillips to crit- other side will be compelled to vote for paid into the treasury it was now makicize the proposed redistribution measure, it because it is so, not for one part of the ing return with good interest. province but for all the electors of Col. Baker had been greatly puzzled British Columbia. I shall vote in sup- by the amendment offered by the leader port of the amendment moved by the of the government, because looking at Hon, the Premier. (Government cheers.) the fact that the government had no ma-Mr. Neill hoped the House would take jority except that given it by Mr. Speak-

> bill he had not even seen. Mr. Mc-Phillips had stated he knew the bill would not be just, fair nor equitable. If the hon, gentleman approaches the considenation of any bill introduced by this ment. Much had been said with regard government with those preconceived to the redistributions of the past. He deas, with those ripe prejudices, he did not think that these measures deservwill not give that bill fair and equitable ed the severe condemnation that had consideration. Referring to the sectionalism cry raised by some opposition members, he said he as one of the few Is) sidered, and areas and interests as well and members would certainly see no in as population had to be considered justice was done the Island, but would and taken into account. The present be very careful before he raised the cry arrangement had proved fairly good, and of sectionalism, to see what the pro- he did not see that any further and posed measure of redistribution was, By general redistribution measure was callso doing he thought that any objections ed for at the present time. he might have to make would have far | Mr. Deane failed to see the logic of greater weight them any which the hon. the remarks of gentlemen opposite. They gentleman on the other side might raise. Mr. Eberts asserted that members on the other side of the House had been completely gulled with reference to the lists of Victoria and New Westminster. One of the leading debaters on the other side had come to the rescue of the govvernment and told the House that the reason why the Vanconver list was not cleaned and the Victoria list was cleaned was that the list in Victoria had not een purged since Victoria was a city. He imagined the hon, gentleman had been gulled, and other hon, gentlemen on the government side had been gulied. for did they not remember that the late Hon. Theodore Davie brought down

in the winter of 1894 a redistribu-

tion bill, and immediately upon the pass-

ing of that hill the registers of Victoria

were cleaned? Those who lived in other

be ore since Victoria was a City That Mr. McPhillips here interrupted. He is why he said the hon, gentlemen had would like to have the hon, member for been gulled. That was the true sate Reveistoke explain the reason for the of affairs, and he did not see how hon cancellation of the voters' lists of Vic- gentlemen opposite could gainsay it. He toria, while those of Vancouver were read the statute to strengthen his argument. "That," he addied, "applies to the dead people because they could not be resident there; they would be residents of some other country. "(Laughter.)

ones? "I will tell the hon, gentleman I don't Mr. Eberts-I have just told you they

> dead men were wiped off the list at that Hon. Mr. Henderson-Yes, but they voted. (Laughter.) Mr. Eberts-I have no doubt they did. but if they voted they voted in getting the hon, gentleman in in New W. minster. but they didn't vote her

> there never has been a case of imper In tion of that kind. Mr. Neill-They voted in Alberni, Mr. Eberts They did in one case in Alberni and were punished there, and

rightly too. Mr. Neil-There were six cases. Mr. Eberts said as to the resolution he felt able to support only part of it and that was the reference, as to the proved of their representive's course.

"And," Mr. Kellie added, "I think ed the whole resolution, and when he came to Mr. Martin's words in favor of the "entire redistribution of scats," Mr. "How often did you jump the fence," Henderson interjected: "How do you

like that? ed in the legislature so great was the here 22 years. At that time Kamloops was still a hamlet. Revelstoke was unknown, and almost the whole of East by them been forced upon the consider not go decently without the breeches, trict was traversed by railways, there was a large population, and when they commenced to talk about a measure of redistribution that would be fair to every portion of the province they were doing something no set of ministers

could do. Mr. Eberts went on to say that the hon, gentlemen opposite had not proposed one single different constituency to those which the late government brought forward in its last redistribution bill. The late government did the right thing Hon. Mr. Semlini-They were forced

to do so Mr. Eberts-Forced nothing, If they were forced we could have brought in a gerrymander bill. Force! If language Mr. Macpherson thought that section- and gas could have done anything then

possibly bring down any other kind of he would not vote for the measure even measure than a gerrymander on its own behalf. If a fair and equitable bill was brought down he would support it, but a majority of the electors at the present time and therefore was not entitled to

bring in a measure of this kind. Mr. Green also held that Mr. McPhillips and other members of the opposition should not condemn the bill until they great and constantly growing importance

cognisance of the statement made by Mr. er's casting vote the government was McPhilips that he would not vote for a having all it could do in holding on to bill which had not yet come down to life, while it would be little better than gentleman's sincerity when they saw of bringing in a redistribution bill. There was another point that presented itself -when a redistribution was determined as necessary, it should not be attempted before the last session of the been passed upon them by the gentlemen opposite. Many features had to be con-

declared that the fate of the government was pronounced, and yet they objected to such a fair measure of redistribution as would make an appeal to the country a true test of the country's feeling. If as had been charged, an unfair gerrymander were perpetrated, the people would be quick to recognize it; and this fact alone would strengthen the hands of the opposition and their chances in the country; if on the other hand a good measure were brought down, the administration would be strengthened, and de serve to be. Government and opposition should join hands 'n getting as fair a redistribution as possible. Then the people could fight it out for themselves, and he hoped to see the best men, the Desty party, win. As for himself, he did not care how soon the elections came. He There could be but one interpretation and which had 30 per cent. of the populat the time he (Mr. Semlin) was in options, stated his reasons, and gave the and true by men sworn to do their duty, there was no sectionalism in the matter

at the present the case in th section indeed thing, more in than Vancouve Mr. J. M. Ma by saying that sfied at first wi redistribution p ment of the se to the Bounda however, not to the party, He fairs in Kooter sectionalism wo the government mended the opp had seen the criticism or co be found so go twould he Mr. Price B endment, and h

that the gove the merest thre fore they would the promised m endeavoring to they should ha sion. The bill in during the convinced that not live out it for the redistri not pledge him vote upon it, s member to Ea they would to b its other portion would give it I Mr. McBride ment for not about redistrib their promises was found in th this year had at the demand land, to secure Now, if the th ver had not fo ernment, nothi

distribution ge heard of. If ment's policy been included throne. The acted according what it believ country at lar on this, he co many respects, to Cassiar, t ceeded with of the future. Hon. Mr. H bate had take range. He did wanderings, bu to the principl and the amen confess, consi principle invo the third men sympathy with the opposition resolution was necessity ther that a measu 1898 was nei The third mer corroborate hi ure should be in favor of s was still. So the measure

earliest poss There was no the hand of t ter had been unnecessary more than v tion, the men member for others would obliged to sta tion of the th therefore had Hon. Mr. I in sympathy and could on that all busi while this ma This was no bill should be the earliest

Hon. Mr. H in preparatio be brought in that it has. the opposition known. It ernment has they cannot then vote it the governn on a better go out, if n equitable me It does not not the House T Mr. McPh to go? If t Hon. Mr. defeat was he would wel and the per how they beg before the Mr. McPh

would endeav

That, Hon of course w Westminste fore elected by acclamat bother himd out with a di that it was be in the go resolution of ducer (know Wwws) shot rance tha -and such would meet the House Mr. Jos. amendment any rate ha ney-General of opinion very import General had

that they w