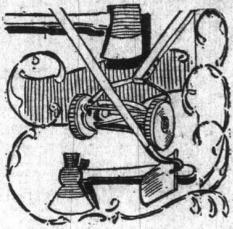


The Season's Offering



in hardware is large. The lawn mower is conspicuous in our store. You need not exhaust your strength with old and worn-out mowers.

We sell mowers that are perfection.

B. C. HARDWARE CO.

E. E. Greenshaw W. J. Griffin
P. O. Box 683 Phone 82

FINISHING BUSINESS OF SESSION OF HOUSE

(Continued From Page Ten)

section. The amendment, declaring the bill a public measure, would only result in removing the benefit which it was proposed to bring about as far as Victoria was concerned.

The amendment was defeated. The report was adopted and the bill passed its third reading.

The house then adjourned until 8.30 o'clock in the evening.

Night Sitting
Nell McKay presented the report of the committee on printing. It was received.

It was moved that the "Act to Amend the Land Act" should be read a third time.

Mr. Oliver submitted an amendment as follows:

"That the order for the third reading of the bill be discharged, and the bill be referred to a select committee of five members of this house, with instructions to enquire into the terms and conditions upon which the lands referred to in the bill (Point Grey and Hastings townsite) had been sold, with power to call for persons, papers, documents, telegrams, and to take evidence under oath, and to report their findings and the evidence to the house."

Mr. McPhillips thought that the resolution was out of order. He said that the only motion in order was that the bill should be recommitted.

Mr. Oliver was of the opinion that the member for the islands was a little premature in presenting his motion and pressed the point that it should be placed before the house.

Mr. McPhillips intimated his contention that the resolution was distinctly out of order on the ground that the honorarium was not proposed as a substantive resolution in a "left-handed" way.

Mr. Oliver took the opposite stand. He remarked that the member for the islands had returned to the house after an absence in a pugnacious mood, if he had followed the usual procedure he would have been apparent that he did not propose an amendment.

Therefore, he is wrong," retorted Mr. McPhillips.

Mr. Oliver, turning to the speaker—"That is a question for you to decide."

Mr. McPhillips argued that the honorable member should take the courteous course and move "A vote of want of confidence in the government."

"My friend knows that it is not good tactics to do just what your opponents would like," returned Mr. Oliver, laughing.

Mr. McPhillips added that Mr. Oliver's motion did not affect the principle of the bill. It was intended, he presumed, to bring about the appointment of a roving commission of inquiry for the purpose of ascertaining whether there were any adventurers, "male" or "female."

Speaker Eberts said that the motion did not require two days' notice. As the resolution was referred to the bill he ruled that it was in order.

Mr. Oliver referred first to the circumstances which had led him, to move for the appointment of a committee to investigate. The point of the measure to which he took exception was introduced at midnight on Monday. Under section 22 of the Land act it was provided that there should be a reservation of 1-4 of all government land divided into town lots.

On the occasion of the recent sale of Point Grey it was stated that a minister of the crown had given the auctioneer power to state that this 1-4 interest would be waived in this instance. If that was the case the minister had gone outside his power, had contravened the law of the land. He had asked for information as to the instructions given the auctioneer, but had been unable to elicit anything.

The fact was the members were asked to pass legislation, with only two hours and a half notice, giving away land valued at something like half a million dollars. A peculiarity of the proposal was that the legislature was only required to waive the right of the province to its reversionary interest to the lands sold at Point Grey and Hastings townsite. Why, he asked, was this not extended to lands sold elsewhere? He thought that there was no intelligent man who could conscientiously say that more information was required before the bill was passed.

There was considerable property—684 acres—sold in 1904 in the Hastings townsite to which the crown proposed waiving all claim to one-quarter interest. Not one reason had been advanced why such a course should be pursued.

The minister of the crown had acted in defiance of the statutes in making the promise that the rights of the crown should be foregone. If, however, it could be proved that such an agreement had been made then without a doubt the house was in honor bound to pass the legislation proposed. That, he contended, would have first to be proved to a select committee.

It was for the purpose of ascertaining the facts that he had submitted the motion. It was his desire that all the information possible should be

obtained before the Land act, as amended, should carry.

Hon. Mr. Fulton thought the honorable member for Delta had displayed another instance of his ability for discovering "convenient reasons."

The principle enunciated in section 22 was that British Columbia as a result of the establishment of townsites should give up its share in the increased value of public lands as a result of the establishment of townsites. He thought that this was a wise measure.

He did not think that this was intended to apply to cases where the government decided to sub-divide its own property and put it up at auction. The provision was allowed to remain on the statutes. It was an oversight that it had been permitted to remain unaltered.

There had been a great many sales where the purchasers understood that they were obtaining the complete right to the property. Crown grants had been issued without containing any reservation. This had been done in connection with the Hastings townsite lots sold in 1904. It had been the practice up to the 1st of May, 1908, to issue grants without the reservation of one-quarter interest. At that date he had drawn attention to the provision of the statutes and he had refused to sign any more such grants.

Since then over 47 grants had been issued with the reservation and accepted by the purchasers. The amendment which had been introduced had intended that it should cover the whole of the sale of public lands in the section under consideration. Vancouver and Point Grey. That had been an oversight which should be rectified at the next session of the legislature.

He went into the point made by Mr. Oliver in regard to the fact that the government would lose a large sum of money as a result of the course pursued. The property had been reserved for the government and authority had been given the auctioneer by letter signed by the minister of the crown to waive the reservation that this extraordinary provision was that where blocks were thus cut up the government would not require the reservation of one-quarter interest.

As a result the land had brought a larger price and more had been disposed of. He asserted that the general public knew just as much about the sale of land at Point Grey as the member for the islands. There would be no good result from the appointment of a select committee because further information would be elicited.

Mr. Henderson criticised the attorney general for taking an action which he said was in direct defiance of the law. Under such circumstances there would be no need of a land act. Under the circumstances he thought it was incumbent on the government to prove to the public that everything which had been done had been intended for the best interests of the country. In his opinion, the matter should be thoroughly investigated.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite regretted to note the tone which the attorney general had adopted towards the government for Delta. It was possible that it might be found that the resolution was more than a mere formality. He drew attention to the method in which the amendment referred to had been introduced. It had been submitted by a supporter of the government and not by a responsible minister of the crown. The resolution was to give the people an opportunity to learn the facts of the case. The truth was that the government had "pocketed" a large sum of money, no less than \$300,000 for five days employment. He was of the impression that the extraordinarily large amount had been voted to cover other transactions which it was desired to keep in the background.

He said that the language of the statutes providing for a quarter interest of land was most explicit and that there was no excuse for the administration contravening the law. The latter were for the purpose of protecting the people but it was found that the government had broken, flagrantly the law of the land.

Mr. Macdonald said that it had been stated that the greater part of the expenditure of \$25,000 had been taken up with the advertising of the land sold. He had an advertisement in his hand and found that it had been shown away as far as the general public was concerned. At the last moment the auctioneer was given instructions to sell the entire block of land instead of three-quarters of it as provided by the statute. Thus it became evident that the auction was a "hole in the corner" arrangement. Only those privileged were in possession of the information which was publicly announced as the last moment. It was noted that the real estate agents of Vancouver were a unit in supporting the government in the recent election campaign. Naturally they would be so. The interests of those people and government were evidently identical. He asserted that the action of the government was one of the most propitiously selfish which had ever been offered an electorate. The statistics were perfectly clear on the point of the reservation of one-quarter interest to the crown. The law had not been made to be enforced at the discretion of the administrator but to be operative at all times. Therefore there was no excuse. What was the position, he asked, of those who had bought property at these auction sales? They had the promise of the present administration that the quarter interest of land would be given them by means of legislation. It was natural that they should assist the government to its return. They would not want to return another government and run the risk of having the promise repudiated. He hoped that the investigation would not be refused.

Bowser Scores Opposition

Mr. Bowser was glad that the member for Delta had at last been given an opportunity of addressing a large and well filled gallery. He had tried to make out that there was another scandal. The member for Delta had done nothing since the Conservative party had come into power in 1903 but attempt to raise scandals. He asked what party was more conversant with land scandals than the Liberals, the associates of those in power at Ottawa. He drew attention to the fact that many prominent Liberals had taken an active part in the auction sale at Vancouver. He enumerated some of the scandals with which the member for Delta had been identified, and went on to say that the leader of the opposition had manufactured the phrase "band of adventurers, male and female" as a result of an investigation which had been ordered by the House on the occasion of a previous session. But the effect of that had been what Mr. Bowser had expected. Many besides the real estate agents of Vancouver had voted for the five Conservative candidates on the occasion of the recent election. They had done this because they had more confidence in the government of the day than they had in those gentlemen occupying seats on the opposition benches. Their attitude was not the result of the method pursued in the sale of the government lands, but because, having the intelligence for which the citizens of Vancouver were noted, they realized that the administration should be entrusted with the government of the country, rather than the party led by the honorable member for Rossland.

Mr. Bowser went on to refer to the "cold storage" meeting which was held on Tuesday evening by the Liberal Association of Victoria, and which had been addressed by the member for Delta. On that occasion the latter had attributed the victory of the Conservative party in the recent election to the "cold storage" of the phrase "Let well enough alone." Apparently the phrase which had been invented by that gentleman, namely "band of adventurers, male and female," had not had the effect desired. If he might be allowed to say so, he presumed that the member for Delta had "sided up" his audience before delivering the address which was attributed to him on that occasion. He had seen that the only way to carry a Liberal gathering was to talk of scandals, and so he followed along that line most faithfully. He had spoken of "grat" and of giving away the public lands, also of the disposition of the public funds by means of treasury warrants, in a most reckless way. His assertions on that occasion were on a par with the assertions which he had made in regard to the "bribery" of the real estate men of Vancouver.

The member for Yale had backed up the affirmations of his leader by stating that the members of the cabinet had been guilty of a breach of the law and that this, of necessity, warranted the appointment of what he termed "a roving commission of enquiry."

He wished to point out that all crown grants issued for some time before May 1908, had been without that clause providing that one quarter of the land should revert to the province. There was a previous government, the chief commissioner of the land department, and a good deal of the same breach which was attributed to the present administration. He asked "was there in the matter?" He claimed that the section upon which the opposition based its attack applied to the lands at Point Grey which had been sold at auction. He said that at any rate it was distinctly doubtful whether this could be made to apply in the instance mentioned.

Therefore there was no reason to think that a minister of the crown had the right to put the minds of intending purchasers as rest on a point by authorizing the auctioneer to make the announcement that the "reversionary interest" would be applied.

That advertisement had been distributed, explained the member for Yale, on the day that the land would be sold some two or three days before the sale had taken place. It was a "hole in the corner" statement of an explicit character had been made at previous to the commencement of the bidding and the deputy commissioner and the words which had been forwarded by the member for Delta to the newspaper had been spread broadcast and as well known to Liberals as to Conservatives. The result of the course No "hole in the corner" had been taken instead of a "hole in the corner" which small sum on the sale no less than three quarters of a million dollars had been deposited in the treasury of the province. It could thus be seen that the "bugaboo" raised by members of the opposition to the effect that the attitude of the government had lost the country some \$200,000, was entirely without foundation, was a myth without the slightest basis.

Mr. Bowser said, moreover, that everything had been done in an open and overboard manner. This, apparently, was what members of the opposition could not understand. Evidently they expected that the provincial government would conduct land sales in the same way as the Dominion authorities. But he wished to say that this was not the case.

He concluded by asking that the house vote down the motion, affirming that as there was nothing to investigate it was useless for a select committee of inquiry to be appointed. The resolution was lost on a division.

Ayes—Munro, Eagleson, Jones, Forston, Oliver, Macdonald, Henderson, Jardine, Brewster, Williams, Hawthornthwaite, McInnis—11.

Nays—Messrs. Tattow, Fulton, Bowser, McPhillips, Thomson, Hunter, Cofield, Young, Taylor, Grant, Behnen, Manson, Hayward, MacKay, Parson, Davey, Schofield—17.

Oliver on Point of Order
Mr. Oliver took the point of order that an amendment to section 9, subsection 10, of the Land Act had been introduced by a private member although it referred to money. He argued that it was distinctly out of order, because, according to the rules, such an amendment would have to be recommended by the crown before being incorporated in the statutes. The clause with which he found fault followed: "and the money deposited by the applicant upon making such application shall be forfeited to the crown."

Mr. Oliver then went on to quote the amendment which he had introduced. "An Act to confer upon the Council of the Corporation of the City of Victoria certain powers in addition to those conferred by the Municipal Clauses Act, and to enact provisions in aid of Municipal Government, particularly applicable to the City of Victoria was read a third time without discussion.

DAVID SPENCER, LTD. THE GREAT EMPORIUM OF THE GREAT WEST. DAVID SPENCER, LTD.

Stylish Apparel Showing Today

Valuable Bargain Chances Tomorrow

Manufacturer's Samples—Ladies' Wash Suits on Special Sale Tomorrow

We will offer tomorrow a quantity of manufacturer's samples in Wash Suits that are particularly desirable for light wear, they are made in very becoming styles and retain, after repeated laundering, their smart and dressy appearance.

\$4.50 LADIES' GREY LINEN SHIRT WAIST SUIT, blouse tucked and piped with white, full sleeve with cuff; skirt pleated.

LADIES' SHIRT WAIST SUIT, in blue and grey muslin; blouse with clusters of tucks and trimmed with buttons, pleated skirt. Special price only **\$5.75**

\$4.50 LADIES' LINEN SUITS in plain colors, fawn, green and grey; blouse tucked to form a yoke effect and piped with red; skirt pleated and finished with piping.

LADIES' SHIRT WAIST SUIT in white lustre with blue spots blouse made with large tucks; skirt seven gore with pleat at each gore. Special for Friday **\$5.75**

\$15.00 Ladies' Costumes on Sale Tomorrow for \$9.75

11 ONLY

We will clear tomorrow this limited surplus stock of Ladies' Costumes, that will win favor by every fair purchaser. They are stylishly and correctly cut consisting of good materials and without question are well fitting.

LADIES' TWEED COSTUMES, colors light and dark grey, black and dark brown. Coat hip length with fitted back, loose front double breasted with outside pockets, full length sleeve with cuff; skirt very full circular cut. Regular \$15.00; Special for Friday only **\$9.75**

Bargain Chances in the Fancy Work Department Tomorrow

A large influx of the newest goods has persuaded us to move a few lines at considerable reductions. A glance at this list will hustle early morning shopping.

WHITE LAWN CUSHION COVERS with frills, tinted in opalescent shades; regular price \$2.00; sale price **\$1.00**

TINTED CUSHION TOPS for working; regular price 50c; sale price **.25c**

DRAWN-WORK DRESSER COVERS, regular \$3.00 and \$3.65; sale price **\$1.00**

TINTED CENTERPIECES, regular price \$1.25; sale price 50c

SIDEBOARD COVERS, heavy torchon lace borders; regular \$5.50; sale price **\$1.00**

NIGHT-DRESS BAGS, drawn-work tops; regular \$1.25; sale price **.50c**

NET CUSHION COVERS with frills; regular prices \$3.50, \$2.50, \$2.00; sale price **\$1.00**

TENERIFFE TEA CLOTHS; regular \$6.75, \$5.50; sale price **\$2.50**

TENERIFFE TRAY CLOTHS, regular \$2.25 to \$4.00; sale price **\$1.00**

Important Sale of Charming Lace Scarves

50c For regular regular value \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50, pretty choice lace scarves, various designs, broad ends, on sale tomorrow.

\$1.00 For regular value, \$3.00, \$2.75, \$2.50 and \$2.00 choice lace scarves, splendid designs, broad ends, on sale tomorrow.

Exhibition of Stylish New Millinery Today

A fresh display of new pattern hats from the fashion salons of Paris, London and New York. We show also our own trimmed hats that are the product of Victoria's best organization of artistic milliners. Our styles are strictly up to the minute; our artists are not only adapters, but originators, that is the reason we show a matchless variety of distinguished styles at moderate prices. Another reason is that we buy materials in great quantities, importing most of our feathers, flowers and ornaments.

Stylish Dress Goods Displayed Today

Our stock is now overflowing with the newest and best in seasonable dress goods. In our present showing of Novelty Suitings, the opportunity to select from so complete a range is well apparent. We show just the color of pattern or weave that will appeal to every woman who would secure the most exclusive. The Novelty Suitings are a complete exposition of the latest styles and are priced as follows:

Priced for Dress Pattern, \$17.50, \$15.00, \$13.00, \$12.50, \$10.00 and **\$9.00**

Also fine selection of Suitings by the yard in all the latest stripes and plaid designs, per yard \$1.75, \$1.50, \$1.25, \$1.00 and **.75c**

Correct Styles in Men's Clothing

The well groomed man will revel in the present showing of our immense stock of Men's Fritites. The new suits certainly give that distinguished appearance in dress that is characteristic of the smart man of today. The new Fritites are made in all the latest shades and newest patterns in English worsteds, Scotch tweed effects, stripes and broken checks. They unquestionably hold the blue ribbon for superiority over all others in ready-to-wear garments.

NEW FITRITES, for spring and summer wear, range in prices from \$30.00 down to **\$15.00**

\$15.00

Correct Styles in Men's New Shirts

We have the handsomest variety of new Shirts for Spring and Summer wear ever seen. Every idea ever thought of to improve a shirt will be found in our vast assortments. In plain shades and novelties, Oxfords, Mochas and Chevots. Soft Shirts in numerous styles for any occasion. Light and dark grounds with figures, stripes and checks; cuffs attached or detached; quality, workmanship and fit are unequalled. We have a special line in fancy mohair, taffeta and reversible collars; they are purely negligee with soft cuffs for links; pockets included. Price **\$1.75**

\$1.75

Correct Styles in Men's Hats

Whoever is interested in correct styles are interested in our hats. Buying in such enormous quantities gives us immense advantages that are so beneficial to our customers. The well-dressed man will find an assortment so large as to satisfy the dictums of correct fashions. Our prices and reliability in qualities have given us the hat reputation we have today.

HEATH SOFT HAT, the Kink of Pearl Hat, with black and pearl bindings, moderately priced **\$5.00**

HEATH STIFF HAT in all the newest shapes and styles. Price **\$5.00**

HEATH STRAW SAILORS, made in fine straw, certainly lend a smart stylish appearance to the wearer. Price **\$3.50**

THE NOX ALL SOFT HAT, as its title indicates, surpasses all others for quality and prices of \$3.50 and **\$3.00**

THE PELHAM HAT, Telescope and Fedora shapes, cannot be excelled at the price of **\$2.50**

\$2.50

DAVID SPENCER, LTD.

Use telephone to New Westminister. Use telephone to Chilliwack. Use telephone to Nanaimo. Use telephone to Seattle.

VOL XLVIII NO 139.

PARLIAMENT'S BUSINESS IS BROUGHT A CLOSE

Remaining Business Yesterday in a Hurry

THE SPEECH FROM THE

Question Asked as to Whether Royal Columbia Immigration

Ottawa, April 28.—The changed the title of the Department of Mines and

It has been definitely an English rifle team will add this summer. They for the Palma trophy and he arranged in Manitoba Columbia.

Hon. Mr. Lémieux, at Lennox said he hoped weeks to have ready salaries for rural postmen. Although it is hoped will take place on Saturday measure of precaution. He gives notice of a session. Both houses had to be Mondays for the remainder.

On the bill providing for of judges of the court of Mr. Taylor vider of the Judge Magee of the for delays in giving double two years behind in some Taylor threatened to be to stop the salary of an months behind in his bill.

Mr. Borden made a 60 on civil service reform in England. Mr. Devlin, of Ontario, supported the

Hon. Mr. Fielding, rep Fowler, said if any in the usual movement. He declared there had duation in the force duty.

Answering Mr. Hughes Lémieux said he had no Pernie. Mr. Hughes' statement was strange. He had seen a statement of the minister of the interior had broken up agreement.

The senate today decided to exclude the commons from its The upper house will run ment department hereat

Mr. Riddick, chief division of the department culture, has been appointed delegate to the third congress of the international federation, which meets September at The Ha

The federation includes countries of Europe, Asia and the United States represented by their delegates.

Ottawa, April 27.—spring weather and the military drew a in Parliament Hill this afternoon the proclamation of the houses had to be speed this morning to paper and complete before 3 p.m.

Armand Lavergne, a trust in the province of the Lieut.-Governor Dums held the royal assent to by the British Columbia respecting immigration. Fielding replied that it not been brought to the government.

Mr. Borden enquired any further news respecting ern coal strike. Mr. Pelt that there was no chance since yesterday.

On the arrival of the General at the senate commons were sent for royal assent given to a making 142 for the session of the tenth parliament then closed with the from the throne:

"Hon. gentlemen of the gentlemen of the house in bringing to a d session of the tenth Canada, I desire to exp thanks for the care and shown in the discharge of their important duties, the are apparent in many which must prove of the country."

"I am glad to observe period terminating on of March was in proportion of the Dominion, without any interruption of the important of the count revenue will continue of that we are now entering in aid of Municipal government of the important of which Canada is comm