arrangement, and was not connected with it.

Mr. Garden—I was not approached to form such a compact, and deny the statement in toto.

Mr. Hayward—I deny it in toto, as I have to the Premier.

Mr. McPhillips—The hon. gentleman from Delta has exceeded his privileges when he attacks the honor of members.

Hon. members—Do you deny it?

Mr. McPhillips—I deny it most emphatically. I ask these men if they are sincere in their charges to move for a committee of investigation, and I will accept its decision. I knew the government by a breach of privilege intended to impugn the honor of members, but as far as I am concerned if the government believe it my constituents will not.

Mr. Oliver—I wish to say I consulted no member of the government.

Cries of "oh, oh."

Mr. McPhillips—Then the member for Cariboo must be a mind reader.

Mr. Martin—What does the senior member for Victoria say?

Mr. Helmcken—If you'll keep quiet I'll say——

Mr. Martin, continuing, said Mr. Curtis on the occasion referred to produced a written resolution of no confidence in the government, which he said the members of the dissenting government party had agreed upon, and which Mr. Helmcken subsequently placed on the order paper.

Mr. Curtis said that he could say there was not a member of the Premier's followers who did anything dishonorable or to their discredit. Every one in the city knew the government could not control part of the followers on the railway issue, and naturally he spoke to those members regarding their views. He was asked how his leader would vote, and tried to find out for his own sake, for he had been told that he was being fooled by Mr. Martin on that question. He asked Mr. Martin if he would join with the government kickers. Mr. Martin replied: "Certainly, if we can defeat the government we will do it." Other members of the opposition had admitted to him that that was right.

Mr. Martin—I deny that. I said: "Bring along your men and we will see."

Mr. Curtis adhered to his statement, but said the resolution referred to was not given him by a member of the House.

Mr. Helmcken—This is not the first time the senior member for Vancouver has sought to impugn my personal honor, and I am quite prepared to see the animus he manifests. The Premier knows that there is not a shadow of foundation for this charge. He knows I never spoke to hon. gentlemen or they to me regarding engineering the defeat of the government. I repeat, however, for the benefit of the House and country, that it is untrue.

Mr. Murphy—I can only reiterate what I have said, that "if the charge is that on the railway matter we were going to vote against the government, it is true. I told the Premier of that six weeks before it occurred. Beyond that any charges made are false."

Mr. Martin said he made no charge against Mr. Helmcken. "I do not say," continued Mr. Martin, "that the statement of the member for Rossland was true. I said that Mr. Curtis came to the caucus and said that seven members——"

Mr. McPhillips—Go on with the slander. He has denied it. You ought to take his statement.

Mr. McInnes—He said a slate of a new government was drafted, and said we would be considered in it.

Mr. Martin—Yes.

Mr. Curtis said this was the first time he had heard the charge. The question was not brought up by him, but by another gentleman.

Mr. Martin said there was no specification regarding competition, but only the defeat of the government.

Mr. Curtis replied that this was absurd. The only question dividing the government forces was the matter of competition, and almost every day the names of members who were going to oppose the government on it were appearing in the Times. He repeated that there was absolutely nothing dishonorable in what had taken place.

Mr. Gilmour lifted his voice in affirmation of what his leader had stated. He had taken the names as given him by Mr. Curtis down in his little book, and said that he was not sure how far Fulton and Garden were controlled by the C. P. R., or if they could be depended upon. Continuing, he said that Mr. Curtis was not following Mr. McBride loyally, and Mr. Curtis retorted that Mr. McBride was not his leader. Mr. Gilmour continued to refer to the matter till Mr. Curtis intimated that the statement that Mr. McBride was his leader was a deliberate falsehood.

Then a number of valiant members, including the Finance Minister and Messrs. Martin and Gilmour, who had sat quietly while the term "lie" was hurled across the floor a few days ago, insisted on a withdrawal.

The Speaker advised the withdrawal of the term, and Mr. Curtis, amid laughter, said he withdrew it in deference to the wishes of the Speaker, and regretted there was no other way of expressing his sentiments in the matter.

Mr. Gilmour said Mr. Curtis felt sore because he was not with his old companions, and the latter replied that he had been trying to figure out where Mr. Gilmour stood for a year.

Mr. Neill then rose, and after referring to those unfortunate incidents, congratulated himself that he kept out of caucuses. Regarding Mr. Oliver's statement that Mr. Curtis had mentioned certain names to him, that was a matter of common knowledge.

Here Mr. Martin again rose and began interrupting.

A roar came from the member for Alberni: "I will not be interrupted," he shouted, "the member for Vancouver is continually making stump speeches, and no one is secure from his interruptions, and fair as you are, Mr. Speaker, I hope you will put an end to it. I for one will not submit to it."

Continuing, he said the dissatisfaction of certain members last session over the railway question was well known. Any one might have made the statement complained of by the member for Rossland.

Adjourned.

John Houston made several futile attempts to move the previous question, but this the Speaker would not receive, and the debate was adjourned on motion of F. J. Fulton.

Press Gallery, March 12th.

Exhausted by the belligerency of yesterday the members this afternoon got down to business and made a serious inroad on the order paper. Mr. Helmcken introduced his bill dealing with the exclusion of Orientals from employment on enterprises under private charters, and Capt. Tatlow reintroduced his Natal Act. Mr. Martin also had a bill dealing with aliens and excluding them from voting. The same gentleman made a half-hearted attack on the government for failure to prosecute a man who escaped from quarantine at Vancouver, but instead of levelling his artillery on the Attorney-General, the head of the department concerned, he preferred to attack the officers of that department, namely, Dr. Fagan and Superintendent Hussey.

Mr. Clifford brought up on privilege a report that Japanese miners were going into Atlin. The Speaker held this was not privilege. Capt. Tatlow said he believed the report was true, and read a telegram in which he resigned the agency for the company. Mr. Stables said there would be serious trouble in that district if Orientals were introduced.

The Address.

Resuming the debate on the address Mr. Fulton refuted the charge made by government members that the opposition were not in opposition on principle. Reverting to the last general election he said 29 or 30 members were returned in opposition to Mr. Martin, and only five in his support. That revealed the attitude of the country. Twenty-six of those members attended the Vancouver convention, the basis of which was opposition to the former's Premier and his policy. That was a principle and one which should have been borne in mind by all the supporters and members of the government.

The Premier's statement that he found out that some of his supporters were unfavorable to him was not borne out by the facts. The Premier, too, had stated that he was so informed by a member of the opposition. If that were true it showed that he took the word of a member of the opposition as proof of that. If the speaker was suspected, it would only have been fair to have asked him and not any other man. The member of the opposition mentioned was evidently playing his own game, and if the speaker's suspicions were true, that gentleman had always played his own game and was doing so still.

When a member of the opposition was taken into the cabinet it indicated to him that the opposition policy had been adopted and the government's principle abandoned. There were gentlemen sitting in support of the government who were equally as emphatic as those now sitting in opposition in denunciation of the government's action. Applause.)

Mr. Clifford—Names.

Mr. Fulton—There is no need to give names. No gentlemen know better than those concerned what they did and what they said at that time. (Hear, hear.)

He then made reference to the remarks made by Mr. Oliver as to what took place in caucus, an act which he thought most unwarranted. But as reference had been made to him as influenced by the C. P. R., he wished to say that although he had acted as their solicitor for ten years, they had never sought to influence his vote. He did not know what they thought of his present attitude, nor did he care.

If honorable members of the opposition had voted against redistribution they had given their reasons in the insufficient data available. That was no longer an objection, as the census returns were to hand.

Re redistribution had been delayed by the Attorney-General on the ground that boundaries had to be determinated and members consulted. To the first he said boundaries were either natural or arbitrary, while taking up the latter objection he pointed out that out of the 79,099 increase in British Columbia's population over half was in the electoral district of Cariboo. In that electoral district the principal increase had been in Southeast Kootenay, Southwest Kootenay and Boundary, represented by eight members, of whom only three would be consulted in framing that redistribution bill.

The member for Cariboo had declared that on the 7th of May, 1901, the government was sustained by Mr. Martin's vote, and that therefore the now leader of the opposition had consequently drawn $1,333.33 by grace of Mr. Martin. That was incorrect, because in the vote referred to, the government had ample support from his own followers. But if that were untrue four ministers of the Crown to-day drew their $333.33 per month by grace of Joseph Martin. That did not admit of cavil.

In regard to cold storage, aid had already been granted by the Dominion government. The question of irrigation, however, was a most passing one, and the speaker urged upon the government, as he did last session, the necessity for that.

Concluding, he told the government that the opposition would offer them no factious opposition. He was found on that side of the House on principle, and that a most important one. Mr. Fulton was loudly applauded.

Mr. Hunter brought up the question of whether Mr. Curtis's amendment to the address submitted yesterday was admissible.

The Speaker replied that he was going into the matter, and would not only rule upon it, but hoped to draw up a rule whereby all future debates on the address could be carried on.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite moved the adjournment of the debate pending the Speaker's decision. This was carried.

First Readings.

The following bills were introduced and read a first time:

Labor Regulation Act, 1902—Mr. Helmcken.

The British Immigration Act, 1902—Capt. Tatlow.

An Act to amend the Highway Traffic Regulation Act—Mr. Oliver.

An Act to Prohibit Aliens from Voting at Municipal Elections—Mr. Martin.

An Act to amend the Wills Act—Mr. Curtis.

Oriental Immigration.

Mr. Helmcken moved—Whereas, resolutions have been passed by this honorable House, praying the Dominion government to enact such legislation as will prevent the immigration into this province of citizens of the Empires of Japan and China;

And whereas, the Dominion government has disallowed the acts known as the "British Columbia Immigration Act, 1900," and the Labor Regulation Act, 1900";

And whereas, the Dominion of Canada and the Province of British Columbia have shown their loyalty and devotion to the cause of the Empire, and His Majesty the King has had signal proofs of such loyalty;

And whereas, the people of the province of British Columbia have an admitted grievance by reason of their attempts to protect themselves against the immigration of citizens of the Empires of Japan and China into this province being frustrated;

And whereas, the right honorable the Premier of the Dominion of Canada has accepted an invitation to be present at the coronation of Our Most Gracious Sovereign King Edward VII., and it is also proposed by the colonial premiers to hold a conference in the city of London, England, after the coronation;

Be it therefore resolved, that an humble address be presented to His Hono. the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to communicate with the right honorable the Premier of Canada, asking him at such conference to bring to the attention of the colonial premiers this question of the admission into Canada of the citizens of the Empires of Japan and China, and to use their influence to cause the Imperial government to take such steps with the governments of Japan and China as will enable the question to be governed in such manner as will best accomplish this object.

In supporting the resolution, which he predicted would be acceptable to the whole House, the mover expressed the belief that it would accentuate the impression made by the anti-Oriental sentiment of the province. At the coronation the premiers of Canada and of British Columbia as well as the Lieutenant-Governor would be present, and doubtless their presence at London would have material bearing on the solution of the difficulty. Reference was made to the disallowance of British Columbia acts and to the late British-Japanese treaty. With reference to the first the efficacy of that measure was shown by the fact that the revenue from Chinese immigration at Victoria for 1899 was $129,841; in 1900 $147,782; and in 1901, only $73,927. The number of Japs who came to this part in 1899 was 2,056; in 1900, 8,970; and in 1901, only 88.

Mr. Helmcken also alluded to the fact that an address on this subject was prepared by the workingmen of British Columbia for presentation to H. R. H. the Duke of York, but which His Excellency had pointed out must come through another channel. That memorial was as follows:

May It Please Your Royal Highness:

On the occasion of your visit to the capital of British Columbia it is our privilege to approach you with the assurance that in no part of His Gracious Majesty, your august father's dominions, does the tide of loyalty run higher than in this outpost of Empire upon the shores of the Pacific ocean. To the persons of your House, in the persons of our late beloved Queen Victoria and His Most Gracious Majesty the King, British subjects in every part of the world owe a debt of gratitude which can only be paid by that personal devotion without servility to the constitutional head of the Empire, which is the proudest tradition of our race, and of whose existence among the workingmen of this country, for whom we speak, we esteem it a high honor to assure you.

It must have been borne in upon you in viewing the province of British Columbia, with its noble roadsteads and harbors, its great wealth of coal, iron and precious metals, its resources of timber, fish and agricultural products, that it is destined, under favorable auspices, to play an important part in the future expansion of the British Empire; nor is there any higher tribute which we can pay than to express the truth that it has been through the wisdom and self-sacrifice of our sovereign rulers that the hearts of its people are bound into this Imperial Family of Nations by ties which are too strong ever to be broken.

We would crave your indulgence to bring before your notice the condition of a large and increasing proportion of the population of this province who are condemned to a condition of servility, as hostile to the traditions of freedom peculiar to our country, as abhorrent to the instincts of humanity; we refer to the Mongolian immigrants who have been imported to form a supply of labor in this province. That their status is servile is apparent from three facts: First, the conditions under which they are allowed into the country, a head tax being exacted; second, their civil status, in that they are not permitted to exercise the privilege of voting; and third, and worst of all, their social status in that they are forcibly compelled to live under conditions of sexual isolation which lead to racial degradation and revolting immorality.

Many thousands of human beings are being brought into this province, and while here compelled to live under these conditions in order to restrict the dangers to which the community is exposed through Mongolian immigration; and the two most important sources of authority to which appeal is had to defend this monstrous custom are the exigencies of the Empire and the doctrines of the Christian religion. Yet, in spite of the fact that every principle of decency and morality has been violated in dealing with these people; that every tradition of British freedom has been broken in the endeavor to limit the danger from them; that danger is becoming daily more imminent and pressing.

The Orientals have already monopolized all those forms of light industry in which the women of our people have been accustomed to find an honorable place, and from whose ranks the mothers of our soldiers, sailors, artizans and pioneers have been accustomed to be drawn.

They have already dispossessed whites from all kinds of labor upon the soil, and are creeping steadily into the skilled trades, and the business of merchandise and storekeeping, while every new discovery of wealth is merely a signal for a fresh and more active invasion of Mongolians. Nor is it possible for white men to prevent this process unless they are prepared to descend and live upon the same undesirable social plane as the Mongolians are forced to accept; while the attempts to minimize its effects which have been permitted have merely disgraced our civilization without accomplishing their object.

All the attempts which have been made by the people of British Columbia to deal definitely with this question have met with opposition from the prerogative of the crown, as vested under the British North America Act in the Lieutenant-Governor of the province, the Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada, and His Most Gracious Majesty's government in Great Britain, on the ground that the international relations of the Empire precluded refusal to admit within its boundaries the Mongolian races.

It is true that the interests of the whole are greater than those of any one part, and were British Columbia alone concerned it would be our duty to submit, even to the extent of the extinction of the white population here, rather than endanger the interests of the Empire. British Columbia might cease to be the breeding ground of British subjects, industrious in peace, and loyal and devoted in war, and we, with our sons and daughters, might be forced to withdraw (as we are now being forced) further within the limits of the Empire, or to seek asylum under a foreign flag; and this might indeed be bitter to ourselves, but without great prejudice to the larger concerns of the Empire. But this process of dispossession once begun, what limit or definite barrier could be assigned to it? It is in the firm conviction that, in this matter, we are fighting for the British Empire against the greatest danger which ever menaced it, a danger which armies cannot avert, nor fleets guard against, that we have been encouraged to address you. We are being defeated because our hands are tied. It is for want of enlightenment on the nature of the combat, and the issue which is at stake, that we attribute the exercise of power which is rendering the people of this province impotent against the recrudescence of Orientalism upon Canadian shores.

Let the loyalty of our hearts, and the greatness of our need, compensate for our ignorance of the etiquette of courts, and of the conventional subtleties of language in which those who approach Royalty are wont to couch the expression of their desires.

The speaker also referred to the visit of Marquis Ito and to the speech of Joseph Chamberlain, in which the Colonial Secretary had emphasized the good will of the colonies as of more importance than the love of European countries. In view of all these facts he thought the matters contained in the resolution should be brought up at the coronation conference.

Mr. Hunter opposed the spirit but not the form of the resolution. He objected to the third clause, which, while true enough, might be objected to by representatives from other colonies as a reflection on their loyalty. The last men who would want their loyalty paraded were the gallant men who had fought for British Columbia in South Africa. He thought the clause should be struck out.

The fourth clause regarding the grievance of British Columbia lacked directness. He suggested what he thought would be better.

The fifth clause also left the impression that the colonial premiers had not been invited to the coronation. He also found fault with the wording of the final clause.

Capt. Tatlow thought the member for Cariboo, was straining at a gnat, and heartily endorsed the resolution. Mr. Curtis and Mr. McPhillips did also.

Mr. McInnes moved the adjournment of the debate as he wanted it amended so that a stronger expression of opinion could be registered.

Receipts and Expenditures.

Mr. Tatlow moved that an order of the House be granted for a return giving an abstract of the receipts and expenditures of the province for the half year ending 31st December, 1901.

In doing so, he asked if the Minister of Finance had no objection to the production of the return, he would reserve his remarks thereon.

The Minister of Finance—The return is being prepared now.

"Acting" Ministers.

Mr. Curtis moved that an order of the House be granted for a return of copies of the orders in council passed since the 1st day of September, 1901, appointing Hon. J. D. Prentice Acting Provincial Secretary, and Hon. D. M. Eberts Acting Minister of Mines, and copies of the notices of such appointments appearing in the Official Gazette.

In making the motion Mr. Curtis alluded to the fact that on the resignation of J. C. Brown as provincial secretary no J. C. Brown as Provincial Secretary no appointment had been made of his successor. No Provincial Secretary had been appointed since that date although the Gazette had contained a notice that the Minister of Finance had been appointed Acting Provincial Secretary. A similar instance was furnished in the delay in filling the post of Minister of Mines. Notwithstanding this notices were continually appearing in the Gazette signed by D. M. Eberts, as Acting Minister of Mines, in spite of the fact that no notice of his appointment had been made. The Constitution Act provided that there should not be more than six members of the executive council, and for the filling of five portfolios.

The Attorney-General—What do you say, Six?

Mr. Curtis—I know you are not six, nor not nearly approaching.

The Attorney-General—I suppose you'd say we are sick?

Mr. Curtis—No, I say you are at sixes and sevens. (Laughter.) I doubt if you ever will be six.

Proceeding, Mr. Curtis pointed out what a gross violation this constitutes of the act. There were only three ministers part of the time, and then some of these were often absent from the Capital. If that number of ministers was not required they should be reduced. A government should be allowed a reasonable time to fill vacant portfolios, but this ministry had continued for six months and the position of Provincial Secretary was still vacant because the government was too weak to fill it. The government should be censured for keeping these vacancies so long, their conduct being nothing less than a scandal.

The act also provided that a salaried minister be appointed temporary during the absence of a real minister. The Attorney-General owed an explanation to the House for wrongly advising His Honor to appoint the Minister of Finance Acting Provincial Secretary. The words of the statute were clear and unmistakable. The Governor had been induced to put his hand to what was an illegal act. The Attorney-General had appointed himself also as Minister of Mines, though he must have known it was illegal. The Provincial Secretary, too, had important duties. He had to sign the call of the legislature, while the Finance Minister, acting as Provincial Secretary, had no authority whatever to do this.

Further still, in the absence of the Chief Commissioner, the Premier, President of the Council, acted as such. Now the Chief Commissioner had an important duty. He signed the crown grants.

The Chief Commissioner—No.

Mr. Curtis—Does the deputy sign it? Where is your authority for it?

The Finance Minister—The custom is for the Deputy Chief Commissioner and the Provincial Secretary to sign it.

Continuing, Mr. Curtis said the Premier, as President of the Council, was not a salaried officer and therefore legally incapable of taking that position.

The Attorney-General—He gets $1,000.

Mr. Curtis—But not as President of the Executive Council. He receives that as Premier, two distinct things.

Continuing, he said it was quite unlawful for the President of the Council to act as Chief Commissioner. Every act he performed as such was illegal. If a single injustice was done the subject, by their illegal acts, a validating act would have to be brought in, all this because the government could not get a man to run in their interests.

Here the Attorney-General pointed to Col. Prior's chair.

Mr. Curtis—Yes, and that hon. gentleman has stated that he would not touch the portfolio had the government not dangled that huge railway bribe before the people of Victoria. Why don't honorable gentlemen answer? They sit like sticks and are unable to answer. There would not be so much time wasted in this House if these gentlemen would give an explanation of their position.

The resolution carried.

Mining Decision.

Mr. Curtis moved: "That a return be made to the House of the decision given by Mr. John Keen in the matter of the assessment and taxation of the ore output of the Le Roi and other mines at Rossland, British Columbia, together with a copy of the evidence given before Mr. Keen."

This also carried.

A Suspect's Escape.

Mr. Martin to move: "That an order of the House be granted for copies of all correspondence between the Attorney-General's department and any person, with regard to the escape of one Jessop from a smallpox quarantine at Vancouver city, and the refusal of the Attorney-General's department to allow said Jessop to be prosecuted, including all reports received from Dr. Fagan in connection with the same."

In doing so he said the matter was one of some importance. He reviewed the circumstances. Jessop, a resident in a quarantined building, made his escape. A warrant was taken out for his arrest. That warrant was deliberately suppressed by the government and the suspect encouraged in his evasion of the act. He pressed for punishment of those who disrespected quarantine. Dr. Fagan, in whose hands the matter had been placed, evidently thought the quarantine was an improper one, and instructed the provincial police officer not to prosecute until instructed to do so by Dr. Fagan. That was an extreme power to place in the hands of any officer of the government. There should be no interference of that kind with a health officer. It looked to him as though Jessop had been told by some one with a "pull" with the government that he could leave quarantine and would be immune from arrest. The execution of the warrant for Jessop's arrest had been stopped by a government official. This looked very bad indeed. It looked as though Jessop had an improper pull with the authorities. This was the first occasion he heard of where the law was evaded.

The Attorney-General said he did not know Jessop. From his information it appeared Jessop did escape and went to the upper country and it was considered inadvisable to spend a large sum of money to bring him back to Vancouver to prosecute. The remarks of the honorable member had been very sharp. Dr. Fagan was an efficient officer in stamping out smallpox, and if he made any one mistake he doubtless was able to give a good account of it. He was absent now, and the Attorney-General would get a statement from him and also from the medical officer of Vancouver and would then explain the matter.

Mr. McPhillips characterized Mr. Martin's attack on Dr. Fagan as unfair. It would have been in better taste for Mr. Martin to have reserved his remarks till he had the corespondence before him. He felt convinced Dr. Fagan would be justified.

Mr. Martin held that the Attorney-General's officer, Dr. Fagan, had no authority to intercept a warrant. Supt. Hussey had no authority to order the suspension of that document.

The resolution carried.

The Victoria Vacancy.

Reaching the adjourned debate on the motion that a writ issue for the Victoria vacancy, Mr. Helmcken said he was glad to see the object he had in view had been accomplished, doubtless with satisfaction to the government. As a member of the opposition he felt gratified that that body had been instrumental in having the seat filled. He withdrew the motion.

A Mining Return.

Mr. Stables moved: That an order of the House be granted for a return setting forth the following information:

1. The number of hydraulic leases granted in the Atlin district since the 9th of August, 1900. 2. The number of applications for hydraulic leases refused since the 9th of August, 1900, with reasons for refusal. 3. The amount of revenue derived from leases granted since 1st of January, 1898. 4. The number of leases cancelled since 1st January, 1898. 5. The number of lay-overs granted since 1st January, 1898, with reasons for granting such lay-overs, and amount of revenue derived from same. 6. The number of extensions of time applied for (if any), and reasons advanced for asking same. 7. The names of all leases upon which assessment work has been done.

In doing so Mr. Stables said that a number of hydraulic leases had been granted in defiance of the law on the subject. Many miners believed that some of these leases were being held illegally, no work having been done on them. Much ground in Atlin was still capable of being worked by hydraulic miners, and they wanted to know just how much of the ground in that district was open for location.

Col. Prior said the government had no objection to the return, but a large portion of the information would have to be obtained from the Gold Commissioner at Atlin, which would involve about six weeks' delay. No applications recommended by the Gold Commissioner had ever been refused. The government had no desire to see the country locked up for speculative purposes.

Mr. Curtis pointed out that this emphasized weakness in the department. There was a great deal of information which could not be obtained in the department. He asked if any leases recommended for cancellation by the Gold Commissioner had been refused by the department. He hoped to be able to compliment the new Minister of Mines if he got this information in a form available in the department.

The leader of the opposition said that having been Minister of Mines he could not recall a single application endorsed by the Gold Commissioner that had been refused. Mr. Graham had left nothing undone to protect the interests of individual miners. He thought there was information in the department to satisfy the question of the member for Cassiar. The junior member for Cassiar had never before raised it, and the speaker was surprised that it should be brought up at the eleventh hour.

Mr. Stables held that he had brought up this matter in the first session of the House and pointed out that no hydraulic leases should be granted on ground occupied by individual miners.

Mr. McBride—That's not so. And I further state that there was not a single hydraulic lease granted during my term of office, any portion of which was occupied by individual miners.

Mr. Stables said he had brought the matter to Mr. McBride's attention in his own office, but while expressing sympathy for the individual miner, Mr. McBride had never let it extend to Atlin. The consent of men on Willow creek had not been secured before a lease was granted.

Information should be available at the Gold Commissioner's office at Atlin. The late Minister of Mines had instructed the Gold Commissioner to cancel leases and had then wired not to cancel the leases. He wanted both individual and hydraulic miners protected. The people only wanted their rights and these they demanded.

Mr. McBride, in reply to Mr. Stables, said he had no recollection of any such thing as had been suggested. He wanted to protect the individual miner of Atlin. He was one himself, and would be perhaps again.

The order was granted.

The Attorney-General submitted the annual report of the Registrar-General of deaths, births and marriages.

The Finance Minister submitted a number of reports also, and the House adjourned.

THE IRISH CHEERED

When Kitchener's Dispatch Was Read in House of Commons.

London, March 10.—When it was announced that General Lord Methuen and four guns had been captured by the Boers commanded by General Delarey, the news came like a thunderbolt to London. The extra editions of the evening papers giving an account of the disaster were eagerly bought up and bitter remarks were passed on the subject of the government declaration that the war in South Africa was over.

The news came too late to affect the business on the stock exchange, but excited curb dealings quickly followed the closing, in which South Africans slumped heavily. The news caused excitement in the mine market. Shares were offered freely at first, but by 6 o'clock the excitement had abated and the curb tone hardened.

The news was received in the House of Commons amid great excitement. The reading of Lord Kitchener's telegram by the war secretary, Mr. Brodrick, was listened to in deep silence, which was broken by loud Irish cheers. Instantly there were cries of "Shame, shame," from the government benches. Then the Irish members seemed to think better of their outbreak and suddenly subsided. The subsequent eulogistic reference to General Methuen were received with cheers.

Rosebery's Rebuke.

Glasgow, March 10.—Lord Rosebery spoke before a crowded meeting in St. Andrew's hall to-night. He referred to the Irish demonstration in the House of Commons to-day, when the reading of Lord Kitchener's telegram announcing the capture of General Methuen was greeted by loud Irish cheers, as a fresh indication of the impossibility of Home Rule. Lord Rosebery said that Mr. Gladstone himself, if he returned from the dead, could not dare to entrust an independent parliament to men who openly rejoiced at a British military disaster.

INDICTMENT FOR MURDER.

Cambridge, Mass., March 10.—The grand jury of Middlesex county this afternoon reported an indictment in four courts against Joseph Wilfrid Blondin, alias Jos. Barnard, charging him with the murder of Margaret Emma Blondin, his wife, at Chelmsford, during April of last year. Now that the indictment has been found, steps will be taken at once to secure the presence of the defendant in Middlesex county, where the trial on the charge of murder will be held. Blondin is now in New York city. The indictment alleges that the crime was committed in Chelmsford on April 27th, 1901.

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WERE CHARGED IN THE POLICE COURT

ALLEGED PERSONATORS BEFORE MAGISTRATE

Prosecution Instituted on Behalf of Mr Bodwell—Cases Remanded Until Friday Morning.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

"That's not my name; it's my father's." This was the rather astonishing reply of John James, who was charged in the police court this morning with personating one James Friday, deceased, at the provincial bye-election yesterday. The information was laid by J. H. Lawson, jr., on behalf of Mr. Bodwell, immediately after the accused was detected by watchful Bodwell scrutineers, and although Prior supporters allege that their eagle optics first alighted on him they did not appear anxious to back up their charge by taking proceedings against him.

The information was laid under section 16 of the Provincial Elections Act, which says:

"If at the election of a member to serve in the legislature any person knowingly personates and falsely assumes to vote in the name of any other person whose name appears on the proper register of voters, whether such other person be living or dead, or if the name of the said other person be the name of a fictitious person, every such person shall, on summary conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars, or to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding six months."

After the charge had been explained to the accused, he said not guilty, and then followed it up with the observation that James Friday wasn't his name, but his father's. The magistrate cautioned him against making such statements at that time, as they could be used against him, and the prisoner thereupon subsided. He was undefended by counsel. The case was remanded until Friday, and in the meantime the accused will make an effort to secure a lawyer.

The other man was more garrulous than his comrade. His name is John Johnson, and he is charged with conspiring to personate. The information in his case is laid under section 177 of the act, which is as follows:

"The returning officer, or deputy returning officer, shall, if he has reason to suspect that any person is personating or attempting or about to personate any elector or deceased elector, or if called upon so to do by any candidate, require such person to sign his name in a book kept for that purpose; and any person being so required who, unless unable to write, shall decline or refuse to sign his name, shall, on summary conviction, be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty dollars."

This case was likewise remanded until Friday morning next. Johnson was allowed out on $100 bail, himself in that sum, two sureties of $50 each or one surety of $100. Up till noon neither man had procured bail. Their friends had evidently deserted them in their hour of need.

The third man, Albert Faulkner, was discharged. As he was leaving the dock he turned melodramatically toward Mr. Lawson, who appeared for the prosecution in all instances, and said, "I'd like to know that gentleman's name?"

"My name is Lawson," Mr. Lawson returned, and the prisoner left the room. Nobody was nervous.

There was a large attendance, but none of the Colonel's enthusiastic admirers put in an appearance.

DR. AGNEW'S CATARRHAL POWDER has proved a blessing to many a "man before the public" in cases of hoarseness, bad throat, tonsilitis and catarrh. Some of the most recent evidence of its efficacy comes from a well known actor, whose home is in New York City. He says: "I have never found anything to equal this remedy for quick relief." 50 cents. Sold by Jackson & Co. and Hall & Co.—137.

PHILIPPINE AFFAIRS.

Natives Show Strong Desire For Social Betterment.

Washington, March 12.—David P. Barrows, chief of the bureau of non-Christian tribes of the Philippine Islands, to-day gave testimony before the senate committee on the Philippines. He separated the Filipinos into two elements. The cultured class is small, only about a dozen families in every town of a population of 10,000. The remainder have no education and no wealth, and are controlled economically and socially by the upper class. For two years, he said, this class and the Americans labored under a great misapprehension of each other, but there was an understanding now among the lower classes. Mr. Barrows said there is a strong desire for social betterment, as evidenced by the sending of the children to schools.

WATERS OF LAKES.

Washington, March 10.—The River and Harbor Bill and report presented to the House to-day by Chairman Burton shows some features not given heretofore. Section 4 authorizes the President to invite Great Britain to join in a commission to secure suitable levels in the great lakes and connecting waters. The report refers to information reaching the committee that Canada is ready to undertake the join work.