

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Mr. Helmcken's Resolution in Favor of a British Columbia Mint Is Carried.

Ladies Want a Curfew Law—Vancouver City Act Amendment Goes Through Committee.

Victoria, March 25.—The legislature spent nearly all day in dealing with private bills. The Vancouver City bill went through committee with few changes, and Mr. Helmcken's resolution asking the Dominion government to establish a mint in British Columbia was carried without opposition. Some of the committee proceedings were enlivened by little tilts that prevented monotony and took up a great deal of time.

The house was opened with prayer by Rev. J. B. Hamilton.

PETITIONS.
By Mr. Williams.—From Mrs. Maria Grant and others asking that the house give the cities of the province power to pass curfew by-laws.

Mr. Helmcken moved: Whereas the establishment of a mint in Canada will be of great benefit commercially and otherwise; and whereas the province of British Columbia is the most suitable province for the establishment of such a mint; be it resolved that the Lieutenant-Governor be requested to communicate with the Dominion government, urging the desire to have such an establishment at the earliest possible date, of a mint; such mint to be erected in the province of British Columbia.

Mr. Helmcken's resolution was carried without opposition. When the Lieutenant-Governor was a senator, he was foremost in urging on the establishment of a mint. He would refer the members to the discussion that came up in the senate during the session of 1891, in which the whole matter was gone over at length. He referred to the large amount of gold that was being brought out of the Yukon and said a mint in British Columbia would have the effect of inducing the miners to send their gold here for refining and sale.

Hon. Col. Baker moved to vote for the resolution, but said in reality the establishment of a mint was more a matter of sentiment than profit, for the cost at Kootenay and Northwest.

minted at the Royal mint was only 2 1/2 per cent, but would amount to probably 3 1/2 if there was a mint established in Canada. What would be an advantage, however, was the establishment of a refinery in which our gold and silver could be refined and made into bars stamped by an inspector so that they would be received at that value by any bank in the Dominion.

The resolution was carried.

TRADE TAX.
The house went into committee of the whole, Mr. Forster in the chair. On Mr. Helmcken's motion the following section was added:

"The company shall commence the actual building and equipment of any railway line which they propose to build within a period of six months from the date on which they are authorized to construct such line, unless the Lieutenant-Governor in Council shall extend the said time, and shall commence and prosecute the building thereof, and the works consequent thereon, with all due diligence until the same is complete. Provided always, that the company shall be bound to comply with the provisions of this section the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may cancel any authority which may have been given to the company to construct such section."

The committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments.

KOOTENAY AND NORTHWEST.
The house went into committee of the whole on the Kootenay and Northwest Railway Company bill, Mr. Graham in the chair.

Mr. Hunter, who had charge of the bill, said that he had an amendment which he believed would meet the objections raised by Mr. Sword and others a few days ago that there were not stringent enough provisions to enforce the carrying out of the undertaking. Mr. Hunter proposed to amend section 48 by inserting "The company shall complete section 1 within two years, and complete section 2 within three years, and shall commence and prosecute the building thereof, and the works consequent thereon, with all due diligence until the same is complete. Provided always, that the company shall be bound to comply with the provisions of this section the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may cancel any authority which may have been given to the company to construct such section."

This did not meet the approval of Mr. Sword, who said that the amendment he moved the other day was preferable. This amendment was struck out. The company shall complete the various sections within three years; provided, however, that if section three shall be completed within two years, the company shall have two years more in which to complete sections four, five and six. There was a good deal of confusion over the taking of the vote, a number of members declaring that they had not heard the "nays" called for. The chairman claimed he had put the nays.

Mr. Rogers testified that the chairman had been put to vote, but that he for one had not heard them called for.

The chairman declared the section carried and then a little more discussion arose over a contention by Mr. Higgins that the Attorney-General and one or two others had come into the room after the vote was put.

Hon. Mr. Roberts replied that he had been just outside the door when the chairman's bell was rung and had come in at once and had a perfect right to vote. The practice was that after the bell was rung a reasonable time was given to allow members to get into their seats. He knew his duty just as well as did Mr. Higgins, who was now taking ground exactly opposite to his practice when in the Speaker's chair.

The Premier rose to remark that this was the first time for the eleven years he had been in the house that the speaker had put a vote unfairly. He would also say that when Speaker, Mr. Higgins had always decided adversely to what he did not like.

The committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments.

ARROWHEAD AND KOOTENAY.
On the motion to go into committee on the Arrowhead & Kootenay Railway company, Mr. Sword moved that the committee be instructed to consider a section to provide that the company must put up \$5,000 security that they would expend \$10,000 on the road by June 30, 1890.

The house went into committee of the whole on the bill, Dr. Walker in the chair.

The road is seventy miles long and the provision in the bill was for a time limit of five years.

When this session was read the Provincial Secretary said it was a most ex-

traordinary thing that Mr. Sword who when the Kootenay & Northwest bill was up, was so anxious to limit the time of building the road which was 1,100 miles long, to five years, was yet quite willing to allow this little seventy mile road the same time. It showed very well that Mr. Sword and his companions had some covert reason for showing their venom against the bill of which Mr. Hunter was in charge though they had not a word to say against the bill brought in by a member of the opposition (Mr. Kelle).

Mr. Sword replied that he had the Provincial Secretary not been so hasty he would have called attention to the advisability of limiting the time in this bill.

Hon. Col. Baker retorted that the section would have passed if he had not given time to the same. He explained that he had no opposition to the bill but just called attention to the incongruity of the conduct of the opposition. Mr. Hunter taunted the members of the opposition with going it blind and being ready to vote for any bill simply because it was brought in by a member of the opposition. "It makes no difference whether the road proposed to go to the skies or down below," went on Mr. Hunter, "but I am sure that the remarks by pointing his pencil first at the carpet, so long as a member of the opposition is in charge, will be of great benefit to the province."

Finally the committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again. Mr. Kelle, saying that he would not give notice of an amendment.

VANCOUVER CITY BILL.
The house went into committee of the whole on the Vancouver City Act Amendment bill, Mr. Hunter in the chair.

Mr. Macpherson moved an amendment that in the event of the city granting a bonus to any railway then that all the real property of electors not entitled to vote on money by-laws should be exempt from additional taxation imposed by reason of such bonus. (At present a person whose property is assessed at less than \$300 cannot vote on money by-laws.)

An amendment moved by Mr. Cotton was adopted. It was to allow the city council without passing a by-law to give title to purchasers from them of property coming into the possession of the city under mortgage.

Mr. Hunter moved and reported the bill complete with amendments.

NORTH STAR AND ARROW LAKE.
On motion to go into committee of the whole on the North Star & Arrow Lake Railway bill, Mr. Sword moved that the committee be instructed to consider his best evidence for the security of the company.

This was carried and the house went into committee of the whole on the bill, Mr. Hunter in the chair.

The committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Messrs. Rithet, Hunter, Walkem, Kelle and others moved that the committee on logging to meet the loggers' delegation and the house adjourned till Monday.

"THE MAKING OF THE CANADIAN WEST."

"The Selkirk Settlers in Real Life," published last year, brought the author—Rev. R. G. MacBeth, of Winnipeg—many requests to follow this up with a work describing the changed conditions which succeeded the breaking in upon the remote and secluded Selkirk Settlement, with its unique and interesting life, of the time of immigration from Eastern Canada. We are pleased to learn that Mr. MacBeth, yielding to the demand, has written a work which he entitled "The Making of the Canadian West." In this he describes the change from the old order to the new, with its resultant difficulties, culminating in the making of the Canadian West.

It is a book of reminiscences, rather than a formal history. Mr. MacBeth, as a native of the old Selkirk Settlement, and as a soldier, and as a minister of the Gospel, has had unsurpassed opportunities of witnessing the development of our great West, and he has endeavored to share in the stirring events of the formative period. Of great interest to the reader is the author's own recollections, particularly in connection with the two rebellions, in the latter which he served as a soldier, and which he witnessed in person. The author's own recollections, particularly in connection with the two rebellions, in the latter which he served as a soldier, and which he witnessed in person.

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IN THE RACE FOR GOLD.

Engineer Hamlin of Victoria Loses His Life Through a Klondike Stampede.

Discoveries of Gold Gravel on Swedish Gulch and Lake Creek on the Yukon.

Average Pans of Nine Dollars on the Former --That Nugget a Fable.

Customs Authority Delegated to a Private Monopoly at Skagway--Interior Mining

(By Bert E. Collyer.)

John Piche, special dispatch bearer of the Dominion government, who left Dawson City on February 26 with official reports of the progress of affairs in the Klondike district, covering the period from August last to date, during which time 800 claims were recorded at Dawson, arrived at Skagway Sunday last. His information with regard to the outputs of the various claims under seal and for immediate transmission to Ottawa. With regard to the contents of his despatches, his lips of course are sealed, but he gives to the Colonist the most important and officially authenticated information of the recent wonderful strikes in the gold country that have come out of that region during several months.

He does not corroborate the reported finding of a \$9,000 nugget on the El Dorado. Indeed, having heard and seen nothing of the kind, he is inclined to believe that this royal lump of gold is purely imaginary. It has its existence only in the fertile brains of two young men camped at the foot of the lake, the purpose of whom was to make a fortune by the sale of a syndicate.

The new diggings on the Big Salmon and the El Dorado, which were also investigated by Mr. Piche personally, with the result that he pronounces the reports concerning them overdone, although they have unquestionably been made by the prospectors, and which they are endeavoring to work off on a tenderfoot syndicate. Piche visited the authors of the great discovery, and although it was a fake and simple, although it was not difficult for the pair in question to convince themselves and others of its existence, it was not so easy to make them believe that it was a fake and simple, although it was not difficult for the pair in question to convince themselves and others of its existence.

On his way Mr. Piche passed numerous prospectors, who had sold their outcrops at various prices, and were now, depending upon the much-heralded relief expedition. What they will do now that they have been abandoned it is difficult to say. There is a prospect, however, that they may fare ill through their endeavor to take advantage of the ignorant and gullible of the Klondike. Major Walsh was met at Lake Bennett, where he has made himself immensely popular. He is allowed to work on his own claims, and is awaiting the arrival of the new licenses, which are looked for daily.

As to the output of the Klondike this spring, Piche declines to be quoted on estimates, but he is of the opinion that the output will be large. The total will, he says, undoubtedly be enormous, for besides the old standbys, Bonanza and El Dorado, there are now a host of new diggings and gulches that are quite as rich or richer, and all of which will contribute to the output of the Klondike this spring.

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INITIATING THE SLAVE.

Scenes and Incidents of the "Ningchow's" First Completed Voyage in Klondike Trade.

The fine and fast steamer "Ningchow," under charter to F. C. Davidge & Co., Ltd., came into port yesterday morning from the north with one hundred odd passengers, of whom the majority were from Skagway. She had on the trip just completed—her first voyage in the Klondike trade—encountered some very severe weather on both passages, and yet made remarkably good speed, her steaming time being surpassed only by the "Queen" among the many craft now engaged in the northern service.

Nor was it the only desirable quality of the ship demonstrated during the voyage, the numerous testimonials presented to the captain and officers testifying eloquently to the attention and skill of the crew and sundry of the passengers. Not only had Captain Cross proved himself an able man at the helm, but he was also a captain who knows how to make each of his guests forget the monotony of sea travel and enjoy, rather than endure, the passing hour. In Mr. Cross, the passengers found a reliable and experienced officer, always on the alert to oblige in his department or to render assistance to those in need of it, while the crew were uniformly so good that every traveler has unhappily so many.

When the "Ningchow" started out from Vancouver she had 505 passengers, 77 oxen, 156 dogs, 100 horses and 1,550 tons of freight, the largest passenger list and one of the heaviest cargoes ever shipped out of the city. From these figures it will be seen that the duties of the officers were far from simple, yet they were uniformly well done. The crew, too, were uniformly good, and their discharge of every duty devolving upon them.

One of the early incidents of the voyage developed at Comox on the up trip, the "Ningchow" arriving there during the afternoon on March 14th. Having completed the trip, the ship was ordered to anchor, and had taken her course when the American steamer Rosalie was sighted, south-bound, and coming under full steam. Captain Cross reports that he kept the "Ningchow" on her proper course until, finding that the Rosalie refused to recognize the American flag, he was obliged to make a complete circle round and come up on the other side of the American steamer. The Rosalie, however, refused to make a complete circle round and come up on the other side of the American steamer. The Rosalie, however, refused to make a complete circle round and come up on the other side of the American steamer.

Both were carried back to Dawson on the 25th of February and received the assistance of the local authorities. The Rosalie, however, refused to make a complete circle round and come up on the other side of the American steamer. The Rosalie, however, refused to make a complete circle round and come up on the other side of the American steamer.

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A TALK ON THEOSOPHY

Mr. Burcham Harding Explains how a Universal Brotherhood Can Be Accomplished.

No Quarrel With Christianity for With It Theosophy Is Close Kin.

Mr. Burcham Harding, of New York, delivered a lecture in the hall of the United Brotherhood or Theosophical society on Thursday evening. There were about forty present and all showed a marked interest in the words of the speaker. Mr. Harding does not indulge in emotional oratory nor try to make his ideas plain with wild gestures. He simply talks in a conversational sort of manner but at the same time makes the desired impression. He said last night that there was a great war on universal brotherhood, a sweeping over the earth and its effects could easily be seen. One of the great obstacles to universal brotherhood was the selfish impulses of the human body. The body wanted everything and was continually grabbing for it and until this could be done away with, universal brotherhood could not be accomplished. One heard in these days a good deal about the equality of man, but he believed that there was no mental, moral or physical equality to be seen. It was not until people got away from the material and the physical and into the grander spiritual plane that the boasted equality could be realized. The soul was merely the divine part of the body, and it was the development of the divine that is in him man could become a God. Paul said that God was in the world, and the speaker said that when he was a boy he had the idea, acquired through intuition, that God was in the world, and whistlers sitting on a throne, which idea was all rubbish. God was in everything. This earth was merely a school in which the soul underwent experience to take away from it.

At the conclusion of his lecture Mr. Harding invited anyone in the audience to ask questions. One of the questions asked was, "What has theosophy to offer which Christianity has not?" The speaker replied that it was nothing but Christianity. Theosophists merely wished Christians to carry out what Jesus taught. Jesus said that God was in the world, and the speaker said that when he was a boy he had the idea, acquired through intuition, that God was in the world, and whistlers sitting on a throne, which idea was all rubbish. God was in everything. This earth was merely a school in which the soul underwent experience to take away from it.

During the evening Master Fawcett played a violin solo and Mrs. Johnston performed on the piano.

The "Lot