The Provincial Legislature

Railway Charters In Committee of the Whole—Opposition Eccentricities.

Government Bills Dealing With Assessment and Dyking Acts Introduced.

Wednesday, March 15, 1905.

The House assembled at 2 o'clock, and after prayers by Rev. Dr. Campbell, the following was the order of business:

Reports.

The private bills committee recommended that the time for presentation of reports be extended to March 29. The report was adopted.

Questions.

Mr. Oliver asked: 1. Have any lands been reserved in the vicinity of Douglas and Devastation channels, Kildala arm, Kitamat arm, Kitamat river and Skeena river? 2. If so, what lands were covered by such reserve, and what was the date of such reserve? 3. Has such reserve, or any portion of it, been cancelled? 4. If so, when? 5. Have any lands been crown granted in such reserved district? 6. If so, to whom were crown grants issued, and the acreage and date of issue in each case? 7. What was the date of application, the date of advertisements, the date of acceptance of survey, and the amount paid per acre in each case? 8. Have any applications for lands in such reserved districts been deferred or held in abeyance? 9. If so, who were the applicants, the acreage applied for, with the date of the application, and for what reason were such applications refused or held in abeyance?

Hon. Mr. Green replied: 1. Lands have been reserved at Kitamat arm, Kitamat river and Skeena river, but not at Douglas and Devastation channels, or south side of Kildala arm. 2. Reserve of Dec. 27, 1899, embraces a belt of land extending back from the shore line a distance of ten miles on each side of Kitamat arm, to the northward of Kildala arm as far as the mouth of Kitamat river; also a belt of land commencing at the mouth of Kitamat river, thence on a line running northerly up the Kitamat valley to Lake Lakelse, and then by the mouth of Copper river and the Skeena river to the Kitsilas canyon, and having a width of ten miles on each side of said line. Reserve of August, 1901, embraces a belt of land extending back for a distance of ten miles on each side of the Skeena river, between Kitsilas canyon and Hazelton. 3. Yes, a portion. 4. Aug. 9, 1901. 5. Yes. 6 and 7. On extra sheet attached, with details. 8. Yes. 9. M. C. Kendall, 160 acres, Sept. 6, 1896; Chas. W. D. Clifford, 160 acres, Sept. 6, 1896; A. I. Church, 160 acres, April 21, 1898, by notice in British Columbia Gazette; Theodore M. Magneson, 160 acres, May 26, 1898—held in abeyance pending investigation of claims.

Private Bills.

The bill to amend the Queen Charlotte Islands Railway Co. Act was committed, Mr. Evans in the chair.

Mr. Oliver proposed an amendment providing that all other lines should have running powers over the road on terms considered fair by the Lieut.-Governor in council.

Mr. Clifford thought such a stipulation might hamper the company in securing capital.

The Attorney-General suggested that Mr. Oliver's point was covered in the general Railway Act.

Mr. Oliver said the proposed road was simply to develop the mineral and timber resources of the island. In no sense could it be considered as being in the general interests of the country.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald argued that there were loopholes by which the road might escape the provisions of the general Railway Act.

Hon. Mr. Cotton contended that the proposed line occupied a peculiar position. Conditions were entirely different from what they would be on the Mainland or on Vancouver Island. He did not see why separate charters should be loaded down with conditions provided for in the general Railway Act. It was not likely, he argued, that another railway comparable to this in extent would be built on the islands, and such a provision might enable some other company to take advantage of this pioneer investment so as to escape financial risk themselves.

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. Oliver proposed to change the bonding power of the railway as stipulated in the bill, namely, $35,000 per mile. The company having the right to build either a narrow or a standard gauge line, he suggested that in case of the former, the bonding power be $20,000 per mile and in case of the latter $30,000 per mile.

The amendment was accepted, and the bill was reported complete as amended.

The bill respecting the Pacific Northern & Omineca Railway was committed, Mr. Shatford in the chair.

Mr. Oliver objected to the extension of time provided "for the expenditure on the construction of the company's line of railway of ten per cent. of the capital," namely, until August, 1907, and the extension of time for completion of the work, namely, until May, 1909, claiming that the company had not done sufficient work up to the present to warrant such consideration.

Mr. Clifford replied that the company had already expended about $23,000 in surveys and construction work.

The objection was not entertained.

Mr. Oliver wanted to have incorporated in the bill a provision for mining powers for other lines. In this connection he argued that the road would practically constitute a part of the Grand Trunk Pacific system, and that such mining rights would be of mutual advantage to the two concerns.

Mr. Clifford said that such a condition would be a serious handicap. It was not within the power of the House to grant running powers over the Grand Trunk, and if that company were given running powers over this line, the advantage would be entirely one-sided.

Hon. Mr. Cotton said that where the line traversed a pass so narrow that construction of another line was impossible, running powers were provided for in the general act.

Mr. Oliver replied that there was provision now in the statutes under which the present company could claim running rights over the Grand Trunk Pacific.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow said if such an amendment passed, the Grand Trunk Pacific in the event of its acquiring the proposed road would be in a position to claim the subsidy which attached thereto.

Mr. Oliver mentioned the assertion that the road and the subsidy would in any event pass into the hands of the Grand Trunk Pacific, and argued that the consummation could not be prevented by any legislative enactment.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow said his point was that such an amendment might enable the Grand Trunk Pacific to get the subsidy for that part of the present line which might be common to both, and which the Grand Trunk Pacific would have to built in any event. As a matter of utility from a provincial point of view, it did not matter, of course, what company built the line.

Mr. Oliver could not see that this affected his point that running powers for other roads should be provided for in the charter. As for the Grand Trunk Pacific obtaining the bonus for any part of the line, which it might absorb in its main system, that could be prevented by special legislation on the point.

The Premier thought the incorporation of such a condition in the bill would be tantamount to a want of bona fides with the company, who had already expended some $30,000 on the work, and who were not hampered by such a condition when the original bargain was made.

Mr. Oliver thought it was pertinent to ask if the railway company had lived up to its agreement? They had been in existence five years, had agreed to do certain work in that time and had failed. He could not see that it would be a breach of faith on the part of the Legislature if it refused to renew the charter on the original conditions. He did not think the company had expended $1,000 in construction.

Mr. Clifford said that $19,000 was spent in surveys, $2,000 in actual construction, and $1,000 in expenses.

Mr. Oliver replied that many a rancher spent more than $3,000 in improvements without coming to the legislature at all.

Mr. Clifford did not think the expenditure of money should be so lightly regarded.

Mr. Oliver remarked that the company was capitalized at $5,000,000 and in five years had only spent in construction work the sum of $3,000.

Mr. Clifford said the company was now asking to have its capital reduced to $1,000,000.

Mr. McInnes said he was advised that the company had a Dominion charter. If this were so, the Dominion government had the right to grant running powers to any other line, and there was no occasion for the provincial legislature to enact such a condition.

The amendment was defeated.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald offered an amendment to make operative in the case of this railway that the section of the general Railway Act which has reference to running powers. In doing so he took occasion to comment upon promises of the Premier that he would endeavor to secure railway development in the province, and the failure of the government to formulate a policy in this regard.

The Premier showed that in all his references to the desirability of railway construction he was perfectly sincere, and remarked upon the futility of making any mere pretence of accomplishment by bringing down legislation, which gave no assurance of materialization. The statutes were already crowded with such railway bills, but not a sod had been turned in actual construction. Such legislation might satisfy the opposition, but it would not satisfy the present government. They wanted something tangible, and so soon as substantial contracts were secured, the proposals would be submitted to the House. As for the present company it had shown its bona fides by a large expenditure of money, and he did not think their operations should be hampered by the importation of new conditions into the contract.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald contended that his amendment would not impose any unfair conditions upon the company.

The amendment was defeated, it being noticeable that a number of the opposition, including Messrs. Wells, Hall, Cameron, McInnes and Paterson did not vote.

The bill was reported complete.

Government Bills.

Hon. Mr. Green introduced a bill to amend the Dyking Assessment Act.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow introduced a bill to amend the Assessment Act, 1903; also a bill to amend the Coal Tax Act.

The bill respecting the Kootenay, Cariboo & Pacific Railway Co. was committed, Mr. Hall in the chair.

This bill was in charge of Dr. King, for whom Mr. Brown was acting, and it passed committee without amendment—and without discussion.

The Premier pointed out the inconsistency of the leader of the opposition in passing over a bill emanating from his party, after insisting so forcefully upon attacking conditions to those which immediately preceded it.

Mr. Macdonald claimed that he had intended to propose his amendment, but had inadvertently missed the opportunity.

Mr. Oliver endeavored to substantiate this by saying that Mr. Macdonald's amendment had been passed up to the chairman before the Premier spoke.

Mr. Bowser remarked that if the explanation offered fitted the case of the leader of the opposition, it certainly did not suit the case of Mr. Oliver, who had not even remotely suggested that he had any amendments to make to this bill. He went on to philosophize upon the domestic affairs of the opposition party, incidentally expressing a desire to know who the leader really was.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald responded to this by saying that the Premier was a master of claptrap, but that he was excelled by the junior member for Vancouver.

Mr. Brown, in order to assist his leader out of an awkward situation, consented to having the bill recommitted.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald then proposed his amendment, the same as that already defeated in connection with other bills, to make the general Railway Act provisions with respect to running powers applicable.

The Premier opposed the amendment on the same grounds that he had taken before.

Mr. Brown explained that he was not personally responsible for the bill, but was simply acting for Dr. King, who had charge of it. As he was not advised as to how the proposed amendment would be regarded by those interested, he moved that the committee rise and report progress, and that the amendment be printed in the meantime. The committee rose accordingly.

The bill to incorporate the Golden Light, Power and Water Co. passed second reading.

Mr. Brown moved the second reading of the bill to incorporate the Fording Valley Railway Co. He explained that the project was to build 92 miles of railway through the southeastern part of the province, which would develop valuable coal, mineral and other resources of the district. The motion passed.

The House rose.

LIGHT RAILWAYS.

When so many railway projects are under consideration and so much seems to hang upon a railway policy, we would call attention to the advantages of light railways in developing the Province. It is practically certain that nearly all the local wants of the valleys of British Columbia and those of many of the mining or mountainous sections can be successfully supplied by some one form or other of light railways, which cost from one-fourth to one-sixth of the standard double lines of railway to build and operate. To-day the Okanagan valleys would be far better supplied by some such system than they would by the Shuswap and Okanagan, and for the very simple reason that a standard line of railway costs so much to operate that there is not sufficient local traffic to make it pay and operate frequently. Take Cariboo as another instance. The local traffic, owing to the peculiar conditions of the district, would not be sufficient to make a standard line of railway pay for many years to come. Nevertheless, the lack of cheaper transportation has been the greatest drawback to the development of this, the oldest and once the best known, section of British Columbia. If a railway could be built to Cariboo for say $5,000 a mile, which we have every reason to believe it could be, and be sufficient to carry at least five times the present traffic, it would be an inestimable boon to Cariboo and Lillooet, and at the same time would be easily within the power of the Province to assist. There are many other parts of the Province that could be similarly served and in time there would be a network of these lines not only amply supplying local wants of communication but forming important feeders to main lines of railways. Systems of light railways in British Columbia and the Northwest would be of immense advantage.

Photo by Mr. McDonald, North Saanich.

NEW METHODIST PARSONAGE AT SIDNEY.

Success has attended the efforts of those who undertook to provide a minister's residence on the Saanich Methodist mission. Generous assistance was given the committee in money and labor by willing workers in the vicinity, and by merchants and residents of Victoria. The Missionary Society of the Methodist Church made a grant of $150 to assist the work. There are eight rooms, bathroom and pantry. The cost of the building is about $800, and that of the stable and outbuildings $100. In addition the buildings have been insured for three years and the interior of the residence has been stained and varnished, and the exterior has received the priming coat of paint. Mrs. W. N. Copeland was the treasurer of the building fund, and Mark Hewitt, Alex. McDonald and W. A. Armstrong the building committee. Mark Hewitt was superintendent of construction.

The editor of the Methodist Recorder says: The chairman of Victoria district, Rev. A. M. Sandford, B. A., has just called on the editor, after having spent a Sunday for special missionary services in the Saanich mission. The chairman was greatly pleased with his visit to Saanich, and spoke in the most complimentary terms of Rev. T. H. Wright and his leading officials for the enterprise they are showing. The new parsonage built at Sidney was a surprise, and for commodiousness and convenience of design reflected much credit upon the circuit. Mr. Sandford is greatly taken with the physical features and the agricultural forwardness of Saanich. A new appointment of promise has been opened at the Cement Works, and from what the chairman observed he was led to share the opinion lately expressed by Dr. J. H. White that in a year or two the mission will become one of the most attractive country circuits of the conference.

Year's Work For Little Orphans

Reports Presented at Annual Meeting of B. C. Protestant Orphanage.

Affairs of Institution In Admirable Condition—New Managing Board.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

There were about thirty or thirty-five subscribers present at the annual meeting of the British Columbia Protestant Orphans' Home, held yesterday afternoon at the city hall, Mr. Charles Hayward, the president, in the chair. Right Rev. Bishop Cridge opened the proceedings with prayer, and after the disposal of routine business, the following communication was received:

Western Fuel Co., 318 California street, San Francisco, March 10, 1905.

E. Crow Baker, Esq., Hon. Treasurer, B. C. Protestant Orphans' Home, Victoria, B. C.

Victoria, B. C.

Dear Sir,—I am in receipt of your favor of the 7th inst., and have written Mr. Thomas R. Stockett, our manager at Nanaimo, to deliver you 25 tons coal for the year 1905, and you will communicate with me personally each year regarding this matter as long as I am connected with the Western Fuel Co. Yours very truly,

(Signed) JAMES B. SMITH, Vice-President.

The thanks of the meeting were accorded to the Western Fuel Co. for their handsome donation.

The report of the president was then received and adopted as follows:

The President.

Ladies and Gentlemen—On this, the 32nd anniversary of the British Columbia Protestant Orphans' Home, it is pleasing to note that we are still actively engaged in our benevolent work—still providing for the orphan and desolate children of the province, some of the comforts and contentment of home life, and still doing what we can to properly equip our young charges for the serious duties of life. And it is gratifying to know that our efforts in this direction have not been in vain, and are evidently appreciated.

There is another important but unobstrusive feature of our work, that of providing foster homes—that has been productive of the happiest results. Experience has demonstrated that this method of dealing with neglected and destitute children and especially the very young ones, is highly satisfactory.

Many appeals received from really worthy persons for the adoption of this class of young children could not be granted, as the demand exceeded the supply.

The efforts referred to in our last report to induce the civic authorities to extend the public sewer to Cook street not being successful, it was determined to at once thoroughly overhaul our existing drains and to connect them with a septic tank, built on our own premises to modern approved plans. The work was completed at a cost of about $460, under the supervision of Mr. Thos. Hooper, architect, who kindly donated his services.

The result is quite satisfactory, and we are now assured that from a sanitary point of view, the home is perfectly safe.

The improvements to our heating system, so long and urgently needed, have also been completed during the year. A new No. 150 Robb hot water meter has been installed, and various alterations made to the pipes and radiators, at a cost of about $660. It is gratifying to know that besides effecting a considerable saving in fuel, these changes have made it now possible with very little labor to maintain a uniform temperature throughout the building, to the great comfort and convenience of the inmates.

The financial statement (kindly audited by Mr. A. B. Fraser, sr.), to be submitted to you today exhibits a healthy taste of affairs, due to a great extent to the careful supervision of the funds and the energetic efforts of our honorary treasurer, Mr. E. Crow Baker.

It is necessary to observe, however, that the somewhat large balance of cash in hand is accounted for by the fact that just prior to this meeting the collections and subscriptions are rounded up and are to carry us through the year.

It is hoped, however, that after providing for the absolutely necessary outgoings for food and maintenance, there will be some funds available for the completion of the internal improvements and furnishings of the home, so necessary to make it as comfortable and homelike as it was originally intended to be.

An adjournment of this meeting until today was, we regret to state, occasioned by the lamented death on the 9th inst. of Mrs. G. A. Sargison.

The deceased lady was one of the founders of the home, assisting in 1873 in framing our present constitution and for nearly thirty years thereafter an active and highly appreciated member of the ladies' committee, until failing health compelled her to retire.

We extend to the bereaved family our sincere sympathy and condolence.

For the future there are encouraging indications that we can not only continue the present work, but may safely enlarge the sphere of our usefulness as opportunity arises. Our present sound financial position, the reliance that may always be placed on a ready, generous response to any further appeals for assistance it may be necessary to make, will amply justify the incoming managers in dispensing their charity with a liberal hand.

In conclusion, we desire to place on record our hearty appreciation of the assistance rendered by the ladies' committee, on whom nearly the whole of the quiet, unostentatious working of the home falls, and to whom the present satisfactory condition of affairs is largely due.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the managers.

CHAS. HAYWARD, President.

March 14, 1905.

The report from the ladies' committee was also received and adopted, it reading as hereunder:

Ladies' Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen—Your committee find it a matter of considerable difficulty to present a report new and interesting from year to year, as the work is very similar in kind to what we have been formerly doing. Neither would it be altogether fair to say we were going to turn over a new leaf and do more practical work, for that has always been our aim. We therefore welcome and promise ourselves, for 1905, the happiness of knowing that we have done something really substantial, to last the year through, with a feeling of renewed hopefulness in our great work of child-training and character-building, and offer for your consideration our seventh annual report of this growing movement, the British Columbia Protestant Orphans' Home.

It is an enterprise that makes small show, little stir, among the many absorbing interests of the day, and attracts but a limited number of earnest, thoughtful people to its steady support, but in the estimation of the ladies' committee is the soil sown rich with seed, which must germinate and bear precious fruitage, in the enlargement and enrichment of human lives.

The child, in its various relations, is the problem of the hour, to those who perceive the awful possibilities of the unfolding nature of childhood. "Only a child" is thoughtlessly said; only a man or woman, a criminal or benefactor of the future, is the real truth.

The committee do not, from their experience, contend that the whole problem is in proper surroundings; that there is everything in the pasturage and nothing in the stock, but it does know—for a certainty—that the removal to new and stimulating associations works wonders, often in the most unpromising material. It is one instance of greatest satisfaction, to workers among neglected and unfortunate little ones, to see the veritable miracle of growth that takes place under these vitalizing conditions. It is as a garden of weeds had been made to blossom like the rose. This is the secret of the devotion of the workers who choose to labor in the children's home. They require from positive results, a boundless faith in human possibilities. There are discouragements and disappointments as in all efforts of philanthropy; stubborn heredities, deeply rooted; impulses to overcome; sometimes sudden relapses into old conditions, but even here, some hopeful signs that better impressions are gaining the mastery, and slowly laying the foundations of better things.

To a woman's heart is there anything so sad, so appealing as a homeless, friendless child, mutely soliciting in the wistful eyes and pinched—often hardened—face, the aid which no heart of tenderness can refuse? There is a great army of the uncared-for; whither are they tending—toward virtue or vice? As they are fed. "Inasmuch as ye did it not" is a condemnation written for the neglectful, so long as Christ's little ones among us.

With a record of so many years' successful work, the P. O. Home ladies' committee needs no word in a president's address, either to explain its objects or solicit the sympathy and support of the public. All donations and work of the home are acknowledged promptly, in the monthly reports of the visiting ladies, through the local press.

With sincere regret we have to record the resignation of Miss Perrin, a most efficient and capable member of our committee, and also with deepest sorrow our recent loss by the death of the Rev. H. J. Wood, the "children's friend," and still more recently a much interested and fellow worker, the late Mrs. Sargison.

We cannot give adequate praise to our matron and her assistant, who have so nobly worked for the Master, and this confidence has been thoroughly borne out by the experience of the past year. What patience, resource, tact and intelligence have been practiced daily, almost hourly! Their work is indeed a labor of love, and one that is highly appreciated by us all.

This year's "pound party" was quite as successful as any of its predecessors; the weather was perfect, the attendance large, and the gifts numerous and handsome. The Fifth Regiment band provided suitable music, the ladies' committee dainty refreshment, and all went away perfectly satisfied. All the delights of Christmastide were fully enjoyed by the children. Not only was a generous supply of food sent in, but the Christmas festival was marked at the home by the usual loving ministrations.

The sanitary and heating arrangements, which have been a cause of grave anxiety to most of us, and which have so long needed a thorough renovation—delayed from year to year on account of lack of funds—have at last been looked into and improved, and we are assured there will be no more trouble on that score for some time to come.

Our grateful thanks are due to our collectors; especially do we feel we owe unstinted praise and gratitude to Mrs. W. W. Wilson and Mrs. A. Toller, who have so materially helped us in this way.

While fully appreciating the work of all our helpers, we feel we must especially acknowledge the very practical and generous assistance of the I. C. C. Society, the King's Daughters, the Hochelaga Working Party, the Church Guilds, Dr. Carter, Mrs. Stadthagen, the P. R. Jubilee Hospital, the Fifth Regiment Band, the Times and Colonist Publishing Companies, the Western Fuel Company, R. Porter & Sons, Mr. James Dunsmuir, the teachers of the North Ward and Hillside schools, Mr. H. W. Bulock (Salt Spring Island), the Labor Union Bureau, the Island A. Association, the B. C. A. Association, A. O. U. W., the B. C. S. P. C. A., the Ladies' Basketball Club, Prof. E. G. Wickens, Messrs. Bishop & Clark, Miss Hynds, Mr. John Tolmie, far-off Cariboo for $32, collected by Mrs. Kelly from the warm-hearted miners, Mr. and Mrs. John Douglas, the draymen of Victoria, and lastly, the happiest little donor, Mr. Oswald Barton.

The committee take great pleasure in recording their appreciation of the ever-ready and hearty co-operation and support of the many kind friends who have listened to their appeal for aid in this movement, so much needed under modern conditions. We must have money to meet constant emergencies, but better spend our money on "homes" than on prisons and reform schools. As we gather them in, may we feed their hungry hearts and groping minds with the Bread of Life!

Number of children in the home at last report	43
Number of children admitted during the year	15
	—58
Removed by guardians during past year	6
Placed at service during past year	5
Adopted during past year	3
	—14
At present in the home	44

There have been no deaths during the year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JENNIE F. McCULLOCH.
President, Ladies' Committee, B. C. P. O. Home.

Victoria, B. C., February, 1905.

An audited financial statement was submitted by the hon. treasurer, and duly received, and together with the previous reports ordered to be printed. The statement is subjoined:

Treasurer's Report.

Receipts.

To balance on hand from last year as under:		
Orders for goods on hand	$ 51 50	
Cash to Cr. Acct. current Bank Commerce	1,040 04	
Deposit in savings dept. Bank Commerce	1,518 75	
		$2,610 29
To Annual subscriptions as per statement	821 00	
To subscrp'ns collected by ladies as per statem't	576 10	
To M. R. Smith & Co. employees, per R. T. Clanton	10 75	
		1,407 85
To donations as per statement	191 40	
To proceeds from "pound party"	122 10	
To rec'd on acct. board inmates 12 mos.	1,531 25	
To Mrs. Kelso, 8 mos. room rent	24 00	
		1,868 75
To net amt. rec'd from rents	436 30	
To Est. Hy. Brackman, proceeds legacy $1,000.	859 21	
To corporation Victoria, 12 mos. int. debentures	80 00	
To sale of goat	2 00	
To Can. Bank Commerce, int. deposit acct.	62 12	
To Mrs. E. L. Higgins, refunds on accts. paid	12 35	
		1,451 98
To trust funds, wages collected for orphans at work		56 00
		$7,394 87

Expenditures.

By monthly bills, 12 mos. as per receipts	$1,548 17	
By salaries, 12 mos. as per receipts	1,098 99	
By light accts., 12 mos. as per receipts	37 98	
By fuel accts., 12 mos. as per receipts	86 25	
By printing and advertising, 12 mos. as per receipts	87 75	
By sundry repairs and improvements, 12 mos. as per receipts	1,422 34	
By Taxes, 1904, as per receipts	195 00	
By furniture accts. as per receipts	20 75	
By insurance accts., as per receipts	48 75	
		$4,545 98
By Cyril Flewin, clothing acct.	11 25	
By purchase of cow, as per receipt	60 00	
By miscellaneous, small accts. and discounts	14 20	
		85 45
By trust funds, orphans' wages deposited		56 00
Balance—		
Cash on hand	51 50	
Cr. to acct. current Bank Commerce	1,021 48	
Deposit in savings dept. Bank of Commerce	1,634 46	
		2,707 44
		$7,394 87

E. CROW BAKER, Hon. Treas.

Audited and found correct.

(Sd.) A. B. Fraser, sr.

Victoria, B. C., March 7, 1905.

The following gentlemen were then elected a committee of management: Right Rev. Bishop Cridge, Chas. Hayward, H. D. Helmcken, Edgar Fawcett, representing the Reformed Episcopal Church; Right Rev. Bishop Perrin, Edgar Crow Baker., Rev. Stanley Ard, A. C. Flumerfelt, representing the Anglican churches; Rev. Dr. Campbell, Thornton Fell, Rev. W. Leslie Clay, G. L. Milne, M. D., representing the Presbyterian churches; Rev. J. P. Westman, Noah Shakespeare, Rev. G. K. B. Adams, W. J. Pendray, representing the Methodist churches; Rev. H. Carsons, G. Carter, W. Scowcroft, D. Spragge, representing Congregational churches; Rev. J. F. Vichert, Adolphus McGregor, Rev. Le Roy Dakin, and A. B. McNeill, representing the Baptist churches. These will at their first meeting appoint a president, secretary and treasurer, and also name a committee of ladies to superintend the internal management of the institution.

Mr. A. B. Fraser, Sen., was elected auditor, and Dr. R. H. Carter, medical attendant at the Home for the ensuing year.

It was resolved that the meeting place on record its sense of the loss sustained by the recent deaths of the Rev. H. J. Wood, Mrs. G. A. Sargison and Mrs. A. A. Green, and the executive were instructed to convey the sympathy and condolence of the meeting to their respective families.

A hearty vote of thanks to the retiring officers and ladies' committee concluded the meeting.

SUMAS DYKING SCHEME.

Discussion Concluded Before Private Bills Committee.

The private bills committee is now fully seized and possessed of all the pros and cons of the Sumas dyking scheme, and has taken the whole subject into its most serious consideration.

The elucidation of this great question has engaged several sessions of the committee and evolved much interesting narrative concerning the science of hydraulics and the eccentricities of water under a variety of conditions, as observed in the channels of the Chilliwack, Luk-a-kuk and other streams within the precincts of the proposed operations.

The hearing of evidence in the matter was concluded Tuesday. A large number of witnesses testified on either side. Yesterday morning the finishing touches were given to the committee's comprehension of the question by Messrs. Griffith and Cowan, representing the promoters and opponents of the scheme respectively.

The point now to be decided is whether the company's petition for incorporation shall be acceded to or not, and if it is acceded to, what recommendations the committee shall make to the House with respect to the terms of the bill, in relation to the interests of settlers who reside along the banks of the Luk-a-kuk river.

It is probable that the committee will not report on the subject for several days.

AN EXPENSIVE IDOL.

Mrs. L. Z. Leiter, when she is in Paris, spends a good deal of time in the shops of the jewelers and dealers in antiques and objects of art. On a rather dull afternoon Mrs. Leiter visited an art shop in the Rue de la Paix. She looked at bronzes, jewels, drawings, and other things, and finally, pointing toward a dusky corner, she said to the polite young salesman: "How much is that Japanese idol over thereworth?" The salesman bowed, and answered: "About 500,000 francs, madam. It is the proprietor."

A good deal of capital is being made out of Sir Mackenzie Bodwell's recent exposure of the "nest of traitors," the result of an old feud which has been stirred up again at Ottawa unnecessarily It is some consolation to know that while Sir Mackenzie may lead the Conservatives in the Senate he does not represent the Liberal-Conservatives of Canada.

Was Arrested And Freed

John Lee Kirk Bartender at a Local Hotel Held For Safe Breaking at Nome.

His Release Was Secured Three Hours Later on Habeas Corpus Proceedings.

John Lee Kirk, who has been tending bar at a Government street hotel, was arrested by Detective Palmer yesterday at 1 o'clock for safe robbery; at 4 o'clock he was free as a result of habeas corpus proceedings taken by Mr. George E. Powell.

Kirk was arrested at the instance of United States Deputy Marshal Cody, who telegraphed from San Francisco, asking that he be apprehended and held. He is wanted to answer a charge of safe-breaking at Cape Nome. It was said that he was a member of the Soapy Smith gang which terrorized Skagway in 1897. Later he went to the Klondike and ultimately drifted to Cape Nome, where the crime for which his arrest is sought is alleged to have been committed. He was traced from Nome to Nevada by the United States secret service officers, and later to California and Victoria, where he has been engaged as a bartender. When arrested by Detective Palmer on Government street he took his arrest quietly, making no statement.

United States Marshal Cody was notified of the arrest, and was to have left San Francisco last night; he was also notified of the release, and it is not known whether he started.

Mr. George Powell, who was retained by Kirk, at once took habeas corpus proceedings before Chief Justce Hunter. He held that Kirk could not be legally held without a warrant, with only the telegram from the United States officer asking that Kirk be arrested. He read of a case in Ontario where a prisoner similarly arrested for extradition had been released, the judge holding that the police could not detain him unless a foreign warrant was received, or he was arrested on a local warrant.

Chief Langley, who appeared, asked that an adjournment be taken; he could prepare a warrant in half an hour. His Lordship pointed out that under the circumstances he had no right to deprive Kirk of his liberty even that long. Kirk was released. Up to midnight he had not been re-arrested.

The Toronto Globe, the Winnipeg Free Press, the Hamilton Times, the Montreal Witness, the Halifax Chronicle, the Toronto Star, and the St. John Daily Telegraph are among the leading Liberal newspapers of the Dominion opposing the Separate School clauses in the Provincial Autonomy Bill now before the House of Commons.

If Sir Wilfred Laurier had striven to the utmost extent, and his political resources are considerable, he could not have produced a greater anomaly than his provisions for forcing separate schools on the people of the Northwest, in a measure purporting to grant them "political autonomy."

Some of our local Liberal friends are no doubt wondering which is the more delicate and difficult question for a government to deal with—a railway policy in British Columbia or separate schools in the Northwest.

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Knives—Bread .... 15c. to 50c. ea.
Knives—Cake ..... 15c. to 40c. ea.
Knives—Teller Kitchen ....20c. ea.
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String Bags ..... 25c. ea.
Table Mats—Leatherette ....60c. set of 6
Table Mats—Folding, Wood .... $1.00 set of 6
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Table Mats—Jap. Palm ....25c. set
Vegetable Slicers ..... 25c. ea.
Washboards..25c., 35c., 40c., 50c. ea.

The above is just a part of our NEW KITCHEN LIST, a copy of which may be had on application at the Store. You would find it very useful for reference.

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