Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

DEATH OF A. J. LANGLEY

Another of Victoria's Pioneer Merchants Passes Away at a Ripe Old Age.

In Public and Private Life He Aided Materially in the City's Progress.

By the death of Alfred John Langley yesterday, Victoria loses another from the rapidly thinning ranks of the men who came here in the early days and helped to build up the city from its small beginnings. Born in Lichfield, Staffordshire, England, on October 15, 1820, Mr. Langley when still a young man came to Canada. After living a short time at Digby, Nova Scotia he went to New York but during the great gold excitement of 1849 was attracted to California, where he went into business in San Francisco and founded the house of Langley & Michaels Co., now one of the largest drug firms in that city. In 1858 Mr. Langley came to Victoria and again engaged in business, the now widely known firm of Langley & Co, wholesale druggists being established by him. For a number of years his brother James who died last November was associated with him as partner. Mr. Langley's energy and ability and his interest in the welfare of Victoria and the public affairs of the colony, resulted in his being appointed a member of the legislative council of the old colonial days under Sir James Douglas. His services as an able administrator were recognized by his being sent to London as commissioner for the colony during the great exhibition of 1862. So ably did he discharge his duties and actively bring before the people in England the advantages of the colony and its wealth of natural resources that he was offered a knighthood for his valuable services, but declined. Mr. Langley was married in England in 1862 and came back to Victoria the next year. Mrs. Langley died in 1876. Mr. Langley on his return to Victoria devoted himself to building up the business he had already established and it steadily grew to its present proportions, with a branch in Vancouver. He admitted into partnership in 1886 Messrs. J. N. and T. M. Henderson, and of late years ceased to take an active part in the business of the firm. Since November last he had been in ill-health, paralysis of the muscles gradually undermining his health, and eventually causing his death yesterday morning, at the age of 75. He leaves two daughters and three sons, Mr. W. H. Langley, barrister, Dr. A. F. Langley and Mr. A. G. Langley. The funeral takes place on Saturday, at half-past two, from the family residence, "The Maples," Fairfield road, and half an hour later at the Reformed Episcopal church.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES.

The supplementary estimates laid before the legislature, for the current year and that commencing on the 1st July next, provide for an additional expenditure of $76,256, exclusive of the $82,328 for public debt purposes, mainly the first year's interest and sinking fund of the loan of 1895. In the first named amount the principal item is $50,000 for the new parliament buildings, to be expended in "Scagliola columns, tiles, drainage and furniture." Among the small items are $300 in aid of resident physician, Englishman's River; $500 construction and furniture schoolhouse, Colwood; $3,000 Lillooet-Lytton road; $1,000 repairs trail Hazelton to Omineca; $400 wharf Read Island; $400 wharf Bute Inlet; $500 Chilcotin river bridge; $1,500 additional plant Cariboo reduction works, and $1,140 salary for a forest ranger.

Indemnity is asked for the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 1895, of $320,510 not covered by appropriations—$224,953 of this being in connection with the public debt; and $34,272 is asked to make good the defalcations of the three defaulters—Prevost $22,596, Falding $1,416, and Warwick $10,259.

SHIPS AND SHIPPING.

To-day the steamer Sehome will make her last run between the Sound and Victoria, as on the following morning the City of Kingston will be ready to resume her regular service. On Tuesday next, however, the Kingston will inaugurate a new schedule connecting with Victoria, as in former months, in the evening instead of the morning, arriving at 4 p.m., and departing at 8:30 p.m., on each day of the week except Monday. This time-table will, it is claimed, allow the Northern Pacific to handle their summer passenger business more advantageously. Although the change as far as known was adopted wholly unknown to the Great Northern, it is believed the Rosalie will commence running again in the morning.

TO SUCCEED THE "ANGERONA."

A Japanese-built steamer, probably the first ever belonging to this port, now lies in the upper harbor, having recently been purchased in the North by Capt. James Hunter, the former owner of the swift little Angerona. The stranger is named Yamata. She formerly belonged to Georgetown, and since she was built, about eighteen months ago, has served as a cannery tender. She is a 30-ton vessel: her keel is 30 feet long, her beam 13.8 feet, and her depth of hold 7 feet. In design she is modelled after the ordinary tug. Her machinery is of the very best description, comprising a steel boiler and compound engines, having a nominal horse power of eight. The speed of the steamer is between seven and eight knots. She is being overhauled preparatory for service on the West Coast, and this morning will be hauled out on Turpel's ways with the schooner Ariel. The "Stevedore" was yesterday occupying the ways, but she will be launched early this morning.

THE CITY.

YESTERDAY'S issue of the Gazette notes that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council has been pleased to cancel the first class B school teacher's certificate held by Mr. Joseph Irwin.

AT the usual meeting of the W.C.T.U. yesterday a very interesting Bible reading was given by the president Mrs. Grant. During the meeting it was arranged to send a strong petition to the legislature from the W.C.T.U. and the different churches protesting against the amendment now before the house of the Liquor license regulation act, 1891.

THE table of dates and places for the holding of courts of assize throughout the province during the present year has just been issued, and shows the spring sessions of this important criminal court fixed for the 5th instant at Nanaimo, the 12th at Westminster, the 19th at Vancouver and the 26th here. The fall assizes will be held here on November 24.

THE benchers of the law society have disbarred Mr. J. J. Blake, a Vancouver barrister, for not complying with their order in regard to a complaint made by Miss Izen, a client of his. Miss Izen claimed that Mr. Blake had received the amount of a judgment in her favor, and that she had difficulty in collecting the amount from him. This was some time ago, and the benchers on hearing the complaint suspended Mr. Blake for six months, and ordered him to pay Miss Izen some two hundred dollars they found she was entitled to. Mr. Blake tendered the lady a cheque for $134 in full settlement, which she refused, and the benchers now finding their order has not been obeyed, have disbarred Mr. Blake.

THE fast trotter Snohomish Boy ran away yesterday, with disastrous results to the plate-glass window and the big show bottles and other articles in Moore's drug store. The horse took it into his head to run when near Campbell's corner and started down Yates street at a lively gait. The headstall of the bridle came away and Mr. Johnson, who was driving, pluckily jumped to the ground and springing to the horse's head caught him by the jaw and ear and threw him. Snohomish Boy, however, struggled to his feet and made another dash for liberty, Johnson hanging round his neck "like grim death." On the sidewalk in front of Moore's drug store he managed to get the horse down, after the rig had demolished the plate-glass front and played havoc with the contents of the window. Man and horse were both slightly cut, but nothing was seriously injured with the exception of the store front.

THE Friendly Help Association assisted 36 people during the month of March. Of these 19 persons received clothing, 14 groceries, 5 meat, 1 fuel, 2 medicine, 1 perambulator, 2 crockery, 1 bed and mattress. The following contributions are acknowledged with thanks: The city (through Mayor Beaven) $20; Mr. Kent, $5; Mrs. H. Kent, $5; Bishop of Columbia, $10; Mrs. Wilmott, Mrs. Rickaby, Mrs. Galletely, Bachelors on Rockwood avenue, Mrs. Jay, Gilmore & McCandless, Mr. Hutcheson, Spencer's Arcade, Mrs. Earle, Mrs. Nolte, Mrs. Dumbleton, Mrs. Tiedeman, Mrs. Munsie, Mrs. Joule and Mrs. McMicking, clothing; Mrs. Gaudin, Mr. Elford, Mr. C. A. Holland, Mrs. W. Wilson, Mrs. J. R. Anderson and Miss Arrowsmith, bedding; Mrs. Scriven, Porter's Market, B. C. Market, Mrs. Dumbleton, Mr. P. Brown, Mrs. Robins, Mrs. Wilson, Y. W.C.A., and Mrs. R. H. Jameson, food; Erskine & Wall, groceries; Weiler Bros., crockery; and Mrs. J. L. Raymur, perambulator. The Association will gladly receive contributions from the charitably disposed.

Rev. J. F. and Mrs. Betts were very agreeably surprised on Wednesday evening and in a manner indicative of the popularity of the pastor and his good wife. Shortly before 8 o'clock Postmaster Noah Shakespeare had a very important business engagement with Mr. and Mrs. Betts. He accordingly met both at their residence and succeeded admirably in keeping both engaged until nearly one hundred members of the Centennial church had gathered in the schoolroom; who upon the tapping of the church bell, sharp at 8 o'clock, filed out in procession, one with a bag of potatoes on his shoulder, another with a ham, another carrying a roast of beef, another with a cake—all with something. In this order the residence of the pastor was entered and was, needless to say, wholly taken possession of. The evening's entertainment commenced with a piano solo by Miss Morris. At about 9 o'clock the ladies started to make arrangements for supper and while these preparations were in progress a solo was given by Prof. Spice; a trio by Prof. Spice, Mrs. Kayton and Mr. Johns (Mrs. Betts presiding at the piano), and addresses by Messrs. Humber, Morris, McConnell, Betts, Bone and Gray, Mrs. Davey, Mrs. Betts, Mrs. F. Adams and Mrs. Shakespeare, Mr. Shakespeare presiding as chairman. Games and other amusements were indulged in and the singing of "God be with you till we meet again" brought to a happy conclusion one of the most pleasant evenings the congregation has ever enjoyed together.

Judge Andrews, of Quebec, has given judgment in the case of the provincial government against Ernest Pacaud for the recovery of $100,000 paid to Pacaud by C. N. Armstrong, one of the contractors of the Baie de Chaleurs railway. The judgment condemned Pacaud to refund $100,000 with interest and costs. Pacaud will appeal.

THE BOARD OF TRADE.

A Mass of Correspondence Dealt With at the Council Meeting Yesterday.

Yukon Trade, Immigration and Other Important Questions Brought Up for Consideration.

A large amount of business came before the council of the Board of Trade at their meeting yesterday morning, principally in the shape of communications.

In regard to the Yukon trade a letter was read from Hon. Mr. Prior, in which he said: "I had an interview this morning (March 5) with Hon. Mr. Daly, minister of the interior; Mr. F. White, comptroller of the N. W. M. Police; Mr. Burgess, deputy minister of the interior, and Col. Herchimer in regard to the matter. These gentlemen are collecting all the information to be found in their several departments bearing on the subject, and Mr. Earle, M.P., and myself are to see them in a day or two, when the whole matter will be thoroughly discussed. The government will at once make application to Washington for bonding privileges through the Lynn canal into British Columbia and the matter of mail subsidy will be brought up at the above mentioned meeting. The latter further stated that the Minister of the Interior did not consider that the government was in possession of sufficient information in regard to the different routes to enable him to lay before council a satisfactory recommendation for financial assistance, but would ask for a sum to be placed in the estimates for surveys of the White Pass and other routes. The government were fully alive to the desirability of opening up the Yukon country and giving B. C. a chance to secure the largely increasing business that is being done there.

A letter from Mr. R. H. Hall, of the Hudson's Bay Co., had been sent to Hon. Mr. Prior subsequently to this, favoring the route by way of Lynn Canal or Taku Inlet, with a narrow gauge road to connect with Teslin lake or some navigable branch of the Yukon river. He considered the Stickeen route to be impracticable and so did Captain John Irving.

In reply to that was a letter from Hon. Mr. Prior dated March 24, which stated that the Minister of the Interior had placed $5,000 in the supplementary estimates for the survey of the White Pass and other routes.

The council considered this satisfactory and the correspondence was filed.

A letter was read from the Minister of the Interior in reference to Mr. J. S. Macaulay's desire to obtain a permit to take liquor into the Yukon country. "It is necessary," the letter states, "to bear in mind that the Northwest Territories act, which is in force in all the unorganized districts north of Athabasca, including the Yukon country, absolutely forbids the manufacture, sale or having in possession of intoxicating liquors except under special permit of the Lieut.-Governor of the Territories. Recognizing that it is not possible to prohibit the traffic altogether and that it would be wisest in so far as may be possible consistently with the law, to place under regulation. We are negotiating with the Lieutenant-Governor, of the Territories with a view to agreeing upon some well organized plan of issuing permits to responsible people who are engaged in other mercantile business and have large interests at stake in the country. The permits, however, are all subject to the condition that the liquor shall be in bond and be released in part from time to time by the officer commanding the N.W.M. police, acting as representative of the departments of customs and interior, and in accordance with the requirements of the traders owning it and as the public interest may appear to warrant. Mr. Macaulay's references were satisfactory, but it appears that he is not engaged in any other business but freighting, which is not a branch of commerce within the sense of the understanding arrived at with the Lieutenant-Governor. The particulars, however, would be supplied to the Lieutenant-Governor of the Territories and he would be asked to send his decision in the matter."

This letter was laid on the table.

Hon. Mr. Prior and Mr. Thos. Earle, M.P., acknowledged receipt of the council's communication in regard to the inconvenience of the present Alaska rail service and said they were giving the matter their attention. Hon. Mr. Prior also enclosed a letter from Hon. Mr. Daly, minister of the interior, stating that he was preparing a memo for the cabinet dealing with the question of the Songhees Indian reserve. Mr. Daly was anxious to try and meet the wishes of Messrs. Prior and Earle as well as the local legislature in regard to a speedy settlement.

Among the communications was one from Mr. F. C. Gamble, resident government engineer, saying that the department would endeavor to remove the snags in the Skeena to the best advantage of the fishing industry.

A long letter requesting the board's support of the Fraser river bridge was referred to the committee on railways to report.

Reference was made by the president, Mr. D. R. Ker, to the death yesterday morning of Mr. A. J. Langley a member of the board, and it was decided to send a letter of condolence to the family.

It was suggested by the special committee to which had been referred the communication of the London Chamber of Commerce dealing with the advancement of trade between the various parts of the empire, that the Lieut.-Governor be asked in what way the board could best co-operate. This was adopted.

The Revelstoke board of trade requested support in their endeavor to secure the discontinuance by the C.P.R. of their store car which runs between Donald and Kamloops to the detriment of the trade of the local merchants.

This request was endorsed and representations will be made to the C.P.R. on the matter.

Considerable discussion in regard to the best method of inducing immigration was aroused by the receipt of the report of the convention at Winnipeg from Mr. F. J. Deane, who had represented the board on that occasion.

After a vote of thanks had been passed to Mr. Deane, Mr. A. C. Flumerfelt, who with Mr. C. A. Semlin and Prof. Odlum, had been appointed by the Western Canada Immigration Association—the outcome of the convention—as the executive for British Columbia, read certain correspondence he had received from the general secretary, Mr. F. W. Heubach, of Winnipeg. It included the suggestions presented by the Association to the Dominion government which, in brief, were that a bureau of immigration be constituted with a permanent commissioner; that the executive of the Association be recognized as an advisory board; that the Association establish a central office in Winnipeg with branches in Western Ontario, Manitoba, Assiniboia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia, and that the Dominion government accord a certain measure of financial assistance to the association.

Mr. Flumerfelt said he would like to see branches organized in the province, where information could be collected and forwarded to the central office for distribution in connection with the other branches. He believed the government, cities and municipalities might afford financial aid.

Mr. Joshua Davies, seconded by Mr. Pearson, moved that "The council of the board of trade realizing the fact that the future of the Dominion in general, and of Western Canada in particular, is largely dependent on immigration, and realizing further that satisfactory results in this direction can only be obtained by placing it upon such a basis as shall be entirely free from the control and influence of party politics; be it therefore resolved that the council urge upon the Dominion government the advisability of recognizing in the most substantial manner the movement inaugurated by the Western Immigration Association."

Mr. Leiser did not agree with the resolution, for he believed that British Columbia, if she spent money on immigration should do it herself and not send the funds to Winnipeg.

Mr. Futcher was also of opinion that the resolution ignored the provincial government and he would not support it for that reason.

Finally it was agreed to forward a similar resolution to the provincial government, and Mr. Futcher then withdrew his opposition and both resolutions were carried.

In acknowledging the receipt of the copy of the report of the committee on the resources and trading prospects of the Yukon a letter from the Department of the Interior states: "I am to point out that on the map accompanying the report there are two boundaries marked in red, one stated to be the boundary as indicated by the British commission and the other the boundary as indicated by the U. S. commission. There is no doubt a mistake, as no definite statement of claim, so far as this department is aware, has ever been made by the U. S. government, and certainly none has ever been made by Canada or Great Britain. The duties of the commissioners appointed under the Treaty of Washington of 1892, consisted in making 'a coincident or joint survey of the territory adjacent to that part of the boundary line of the U. S. and the Dominion of Canada dividing the territory of Alaska from the province of British Columbia and the Northwest Territory of Canada, from the latitude of 54 degrees 40 minutes north, to the point where the said boundary line encounters the 141st degree of longitude westward from the meridian of Greenwich, with a view to the ascertainment of the facts and data necessary to a permanent delimitation of the said boundary line.' It will thus be seen that it was not within the purview of the commissioners to take into consideration the question of where the boundary actually is, and they did not do so."

Mr. Robert Ward, who has been appointed as delegate of the board of trade to the congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire to be held in London in June, asked if it was the wish of the board that he should support the movement that was to be put forward with a view to obtaining differential duties in favor of colonial productions.

It was decided that Mr. Ward should be allowed to use his own good judgment in the stand he took upon whatever questions came before congress.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30.

NAVAL SHAM BATTLE.

A sham fight at Macaulay Point on the afternoon of May 26 will form one of the attractions of the Queen's birthday celebration this year. This feature will be provided by H. M. Navy, and was arranged for at a well attended meeting of the regatta committee of the celebration in the city hall last evening, over which His Worship Mayor Beaven presided.

At the request of Admiral Stevenson, Capt. Finnis, of H.M.S. Royal Arthur, was present and expressed the desire of the Admiral to co-operate with those in charge of the celebration. He also announced his willingness to assist in the regatta. He said that he should be pleased to arrange for the review and sham battle, provided, of course, that the flagship was available at the time. Possibly, however, several warships would be in Esquimalt at the time.

After some discussion by the committee a resolution was unanimously passed that the great naval event should be held at Macaulay Point at 2 o'clock on the day above mentioned, and that the arranging of the details be left in the hands of the navy. Capt. Finnis favored the selection of the site and thought that a pleasing programme could be arranged comprising a march past followed by various evolutions and manual drill, concluding with a sham fight.

The committee decided that all the amateur races of the regatta be conducted under the auspices of the James Bay Athletic Association. The secretary was instructed to communicate with Mr. J. S. Yates and ask that gentleman for the privileges of property which were enjoyed last year. It was decided to omit the sealers' race from the programme. The secretary, Mr. Beaumont Boggs, reported having communicated with different Indian tribes in regard to the war canoe races and suggested that a gold bracelet be given to the captain of the winning canoe crew in the klootchmen's contests in addition to the regular prizes awarded. The suggestion was approved and it was further deemed advisable to give prizes other than money for the best decorated pleasure boat or canoe. Postmaster Noah Shakespeare moved a vote of thanks to Capt. Finnis for attending the meeting and for his promised services. The motion was heartily adopted and the meeting adjourned.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Second Session of the Seventh Parliament.

FORTY-NINTH DAY.

THURSDAY, April 9, 1896.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 p. m. Prayers by Rev. W. D. Barber.

MR. SWORD moved for any correspondence as to the conveyance for the land on which a schoolhouse is now being built at Mission City, also a statement of any arrangement that may have been made as to the ground on which the old schoolhouse stands, which to the extent of one acre, was conveyed to the government in 1885. Agreed to.

HON. MR. EBERTS introduced a bill "to prevent the careless use of fire in woods and forests."

The house again went into committee on the municipal clauses bill, Mr. Booth in the chair. Bill reported complete with amendments. The land registry bill was read a third time and passed.

The house went into committee on the election regulation bill (Mr. Forster) with Capt. Irving in the chair. Mr. Rithet moved that the chairman leave the chair, explaining that it was very late in the session to consider a bill of this sort, especially as there is no likelihood of the bill being required until after next. The motion was lost on division. The committee shortly afterward rose and reported progress, and it being 6 o'clock the speaker left the chair.

After Recess.

HON. MR. TURNER presented petitions from the ministerial association and from the W.C.T.U. against the proposed amendment to the license act to permit saloons to be open during certain hours on Sunday.

MR. WILLIAMS introduced a bill to amend the law with regard to conditional sales of goods and chattels. Read a first time.

The house again went into committee on the election regulation bill, Capt. Irving in the chair. The committee rose and reported progress.

HON. COL. BAKER presented a return respecting leases for placer mining grounds; also statistics relating to municipalities prepared by the bureau of statistics.

The adjourned debate on the resolution by Capt. Irving, "requesting that the Dominion government be at once apprised of the necessity of placing the Yukon country under more effective governmental control" was resumed, and the resolution was agreed to.

MR. HELMCKEN moved the second reading of the bill to amend the license act, among other respects so as to permit saloons to be open during certain hours on Sunday. He had not, he said, heard any reasons given against the second reading of this bill. The act he wished to amend was passed in 1891, and looking back to the newspapers to see what was the cause of its enactment, he found nothing to satisfy him that it had been called for. Referring to the rather animated discussion which then took place, he said he hoped there would be no cause for the matter being treated in that spirit on this occasion. He knew objection would be taken to one section of this bill that it would destroy the sanctity of the Sabbath day; but he had heard it said that the act of 1891 does not work, or that it drives people from the city into the country so that as bona fide travellers they may enjoy themselves as they see fit, and if such is the case he for one could not blame these men. He had framed this bill so as to fully respect the rights of the people without disregard of individual liberties, and to facilitate the strict enforcement of the law.

MR. KENNEDY denied that there is any such thing as the liberty of the subject, and being opposed to the first two sections of the bill he moved that it be read a second time that day six months.

MR. BOOTH, while opposed to the first section, hoped that the bill would be read a second time, as he saw in it many valuable regulations which ought to become law as they would assist the police in the discharge of their duty. The section to which exception is taken could be eliminated in committee.

MR. KIDD said it seemed this bill was intended as a sugar-coated pill, but there was not sufficient sugar to induce him to swallow the second reading.

MR. WILLIAMS wanted to know if Mr. Helmcken is in training for the position of Attorney-General, as during this session he has introduced more bills than the Attorney-General himself. He was opposed to the second reading.

DR. WALKEM argued that if to have saloons open is wrong during certain hours on Sunday, it must also be wrong during the rest of the week; and for his part he felt that it is in the public interest to allow saloons to be open during certain hours on Sunday. Since they have been closed, he believed there had been more drinking, on a more immoderate scale, than ever before, as men take the liquor home, or get into the saloons by the back doors and stay there.

HON. MR. POOLEY said he had opposed the present act when it was brought forward by the late Hon. John Robson, but had noticed after it was passed that there was an absence of much of the Sunday drunkenness which before that had been noticed in Victoria. He did not think it would be wise to have the saloons opened during limited hours on Sunday; and he took exception to the statement that under the laws as at present there is any noticeable disorder caused in the country parts by people going there to get liquor. Such is certainly not the case in Esquimalt district. He would support the motion for the six months hoist.

HON. MR. MARTIN, who had opposed the present act in 1891, said it appeared to him to have worked very well indeed, and so long as he believed it to be the wish of his constituents to have saloons closed on Sunday he would vote that way.

The six months hoist was carried on division of 21 to 11.

MR. KITCHEN moved the second reading of his bill to amend the mechanics lien act, by striking out certain words which it had been held by the late Chief Justice brought the material man back into the act and rendered it unworkable.

MR. HELMCKEN informed the hon. member that that decision had been upset by the court of appeal.

MR. KITCHEN thereupon moved to have his bill struck off the order paper; which was done.

The house adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

FIFTIETH DAY.

FRIDAY, April 10, 1896.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 p.m. Prayers by Rev. W. D. Barber.

The house went into committee of supply, Mr. Hunter in the chair, taking up the supplementary estimates. The first item, $1,140 for a year's salary for a forest ranger, it was explained will provide an officer who will attend to the enforcement of the act for the preservation of the forests from fire, and who also will be used in connection with the collection of timber dues.

In connection with the item of $300 in aid of resident physician, Englishman's River, Mr. Semlin called the attention of the government to what he considered the exorbitant charge of $250 recently made by a subsidised physician in the upper country, for a visit involving his absence from home for the greater part of a week.

The vote of $50,000 additional for the new parliament buildings caused some discussion, though it was not opposed, being for absolutely necessary works, including tile flooring, drainage, furniture in the shape of the permanent counters and desks, and columns for the legislative hall. These, it was explained, are to be the cement composition called scaghola, which so closely resembles marble that the ordinary observer cannot tell the difference, though the cost is much less.

In connection with the vote of $400 for contesting legal questions with Dominion government (counsel fee re foreshores and fisheries), Mr. Williams urged that something be done to confirm the titles granted by the provincial government to certain property on the north side of Water street, in Vancouver, and which has since been asserted to form part of the foreshore and to be under the control of the Dominion.

HON. MR. EBERTS replied that he is not aware that the titles are in any danger, as shown by the fact that they have remained undisturbed for ten years. The matter, will, however, receive the attention of the government.

Having passed all the items the committee rose and reported the resolution; and Hon. Mr. Turner introduced the supply bill, which was read a first time.

DR. WALKEM presented a report from the select committee appointed to inquire into the working of the log scaling act.

MR. BOOTH introduced a bill to amend the license act, dealing with licenses in the rural municipalities. He explained that the provisions of this bill formed part of that introduced by Mr. Helmcken but defeated because of the Sunday section. His bill he thought would meet with general acceptance. Read a first time.

MR. RITHET introduced a bill to amend the "Creditors' trust deeds act, 1894." Read a first time.

HON. MR. EBERTS introduced a bill to amend the "Coroners' act." Read a first time.

A message from the Lieut.-Governor returned the bill to amend the County court act, for further amendment.

It being six o'clock the Speaker left the chair.

After Recess.

The house went into committee on the supply bill, Mr. Hunter in the chair. Reported complete without amendments.

The small debts act amendment bill was read a third time and passed.

The report from committee of the whole on the mineral bill was considered at length, several amendments being adopted.

The house adjourned at 11:05 until 2 o'clock on Monday.

THE COLUMBIA AND WESTERN.

A bill to authorize the granting of a land subsidy in aid of the Columbia & Western railway, presented to the legislature yesterday, provides that "The company shall, within six months from the passage of this act, deposit with the provincial government good and sufficient security, to the satisfaction of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, in the sum of fifty thousand dollars, not as a penalty, but as liquidated and ascertained damages due to Her Majesty in right of the province of British Columbia in case of default, conditioned that the line of railway from Trail to Penticton shall be built within four years from the date of the passage of this act."

The grant is to be 10,240 acres for each mile of the main line, if the road is built narrow gauge, or 20,000 if standard gauge, the lands to be allotted in the districts of Kootenay and Yale.

THE CHILCOTEN PLAINS.

TO THE EDITOR:—Before the present session of the legislature comes to an end it is necessary that some provision be made for the construction of a road of some kind or other from the head of Bute inlet to the Chilcoten plains. The distance from the coast to the plain does not exceed eighty miles; the line of road is not more than ordinarily difficult for general purposes. Such a road would render ingress to a vast and valuable country—egress likewise. Governor Douglas—a wise man—considered it advisable to open trails or roads from the coast to the interior wherever practicable. But it was absurd to suppose the only entrance to the interior to be by Fraser river; but probably now-a-days it is useless to write about small tracticable matters. A. B. C.

thinness

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