

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE

GOVERNMENT'S POLICY SEVERELY HANDLED

John Oliver Exposes Incompetency of McBride Administration—Socialists' Tricks Exposed.

(Continued from Monday's Daily.)

North Vancouver. On the second reading of the bill to accelerate the incorporation of the city of North Vancouver...

Speaker Will Decide. The bill to amend the Vancouver Incorporation Act was committed with Price Ellison in the chair.

Mr. F. Garden moved the following sub-section: "(107A) For licensing and regulating electricians and those engaged in wiring buildings, poles or other structures...

Dr. Young objected to this. He contended that these amendments to the act had not according to the rules been properly advertised.

John Oliver pointed out that while the Municipal Act could be changed at will by the legislature...

Dr. Young in supporting his contention held that the private bills committee objected to being overridden.

Price Ellison thought it meant that if this proceeding asked for were to prevail then the House might just as well refrain from sitting.

Dr. Young intimated that this particular section was not so much objected to as some others of which notice was given.

On Motion of J. F. Garden the bill to amend the False Creek Foreshore Act, 1904, passed its second reading.

The Power Bill. On the second reading of the bill to amend the charter of the West Kootenay Power Company...

At the evening sitting there was a splendid exposure made of the system of gallery play which is indulged in by arrangement between the members of the government and their colleagues.

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power. He pointed out, however, that other companies had been incorporated to carry on business when the Cascade Company entered the field.

It was not asked that one company should be protected against another. It was asked that there should be competition supplied to the Boundary smelters.

The amendment suggested by Dr. Young would tie that country up. The Granby Company had declared a dividend on \$15,000,000 investment.

On motion of Dr. Young the debate was adjourned.

Safety of Passengers. On the second reading of the bill to make provision for securing the safety of passengers traveling on and preventing accidents and injuries to employees on tramway and street railways...

The Dominion Trades and Labor Congress had at its last session passed a resolution against the danger to employees so that it could not be said that there was not a demand for such a measure.

That, whereas, owing to the great and ever present danger attendant upon street railway conductors from their having to perform all their duties upon the side steps of open cars, and that, whereas, not a summer passes but a large number of conductors are injured, sometimes fatally, by losing their balance, and by being pulled off by vehicles, and other causes...

The expenditure on public works had been cut down also by about 42 per cent. He thought therefore that the province had paid fully enough to give the finance minister a chance to report a surplus.

The government had done nothing to encourage immigration or to induce the acquisition of capital to British Columbia. Those in search of timber land were given no information.

On motion of W. J. Bowser the debate was adjourned.

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Terminal Railway Bill. He said that this was made necessary in order to facilitate the company to build a piece of road about Mud Bay to avoid a heavy grade.

J. A. Macdonald said that if the case was an urgent one he had no objections to the bill being introduced on the understanding, however, that there should be sufficient time given to allow parties interested to make representations, before the bill was finally passed.

The premier said he was agreeable to this. The bill passed its first reading.

New Bills. W. Manson introduced a bill to amend the Steam Boiler Inspector Act, 1901.

Hon. F. J. Fulton introduced a bill to incorporate the Lifeboat and Life-saving Association of British Columbia.

Budget Debate. On the adjourned debate on the motion to go into supply...

There had been, owing to the vigilance of the assessors, an increase in the amount of revenue tax collected.

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provincial government was to impose a heavy tax upon the timber cut upon these homesteads. The protests of the settlers were listened to, and the government refused to do anything.

The Premier's written letter conveying the lands was produced, and the premier admitted that the lands should not be granted.

The natural resources of this province were great beyond estimation. The minister of mines had done nothing to inquire into the riches.

With reference to the attorney-general Mr. Oliver said he would not in the absence of that gentleman say all that he had intended to do.

The Loan Act introduced by the present government had been attacked by the opposition. The loan was taken for the province to go back to the most primitive methods.

North Vancouver, a new municipality, had borrowed money at 4 per cent. The province should have been able to have got money at 3 per cent or 3 1/2 per cent.

Mr. Oliver said that last year it was pointed out by the Liberal opposition that the province was paying interest at 5 per cent on its overdraft and at the same time obtaining 3 per cent on the amount standing to the credit of the province.

The finance minister should also take into consideration that the province had paid fully enough to give the finance minister a chance to report a surplus.

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pose the lands were exchanged at a loss of thousands to the province. The Kitimaat land question was gone into. The chief commissioner had said before a committee of investigation that he knew nothing about the matters.

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complete the board of trustees for that municipal school district. Trustees elected shall serve for a term of two years, and it shall be competent for them to remain in office and exercise all the powers of trustees until their successors have been duly elected.

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one-twentieth of the total number of voters on the current year's list of those entitled to vote for mayor, submit.

W. J. Bowser thought the council which was seeking election should have the say as to what should be submitted to the people.

The amendment was changed to ten per cent, Mr. Cameron explaining that this applied only to the time of an election.

Hon. Mr. Fulton thought 10 per cent was too low. The amendment of Mr. Cameron carried, the percentage being 20 per cent.

Mr. Brown moved an amendment to make it clear whether after a by-law had been passed it should be necessary to refer back to the people again before such by-law could be repealed.

Mr. Cameron said he was willing to change the percentage. The principle of the referendum was right he thought.

On the recommendation of Hon. Mr. Fulton this stood over.

Mr. Cameron moved to add at end of section 156: "All that part of section 21 of the 'Land Registry Act' after the words 'conducted,' in the ninth line thereof, and section 32, shall not apply to any tax sale to be held, or that has heretofore been held, of lands for overdue taxes in the city of Victoria."

Mr. Cameron said all he was asking for was that Victoria should be put on equal footing with Vancouver.

Mr. Bowser said this was not necessary, according to the Land Registry Act as now amended.

Mr. Cameron called attention to the fact that this advice from Mr. Bowser was surely with bad grace, when by referring to the order paper there was an amendment for the Vancouver City Act, proposed by Mr. Bowser, which was exactly the same as this one proposed by him.

Mr. Bowser said that he had been asked by the city solicitor of Vancouver to submit it.

Mr. Cameron said he was not a legal gentleman, but would like a vote on the question.

Mr. Bowser said he did not think his motion necessary, and the motion of Mr. Cameron was not pressed.

The committee rose and reported progress. Columbia & Western.

The House then went into committee on the bill to amend the Columbia & Western Railway Subsidy Act, 1896.

S. Henderson moved to make it clear that this and grant should be made satisfaction for all the work of the company, and to avoid any financial of the company seeking aid for section 4.

The amendment was lost. J. H. Hawthornthwaite moved to add the following as a new section: "4. Provided, always, that where any settler or squatter has occupied continuously, or improved to a reasonable extent, or made written application for, prior to the year 1906, a portion of land not exceeding 160 acres in extent situated within the crown land granted by the said act, he shall be entitled to receive from the said company a grant for same in accordance with existing regulations governing the disposal of pre-emption of crown lands."

Mr. Oliver took exception to this. What was the use of putting on the statute books laws like this when there was a government in power which would not enforce the laws and instructed its agents to tell applicants to deal with the C. P. R. alone. The settlers, Mr. Oliver said had a right if any to 640 acres.