

TALK AGAINST TIME.

Opposition Endeavors to Prevent the Resolution Being Carried to Grant Supply.

Speaker Rules Against Mr. Sword and Is Sustained by a Big Majority.

Practically the whole of yesterday's session of the legislature was taken up by the opposition talking against time to prevent the preliminary motion for supply to be passed. For a time it looked like an all night session, but upon a point of order taken, after the opposition amendment had been voted down by 19 to 10, the business of the house proceeded, and the preliminary supply motion passed.

The house opened with prayer by Rev. W. Leslie Clay.

DEBATE ON SUPPLY.

Mr. Speaker gave the following decision on the point of order raised the previous day as to the scope of the debate on a preliminary motion for supply. "On 8th March, upon the question being proposed 'That I do now leave the chair and that the house resolve itself into a committee of the whole to consider the motion 'That supply be granted to Her Majesty?' a debate arose. Objection being taken that the motion is not debatable under Rule 95, which follows English Standing Order 64—'The committee of supply and ways and means should be set up as soon as the address in reply to the speech of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor is agreed to.' This rule has been followed. A practice has grown up, ever since Confederation, of combining two separate and distinct matters in one resolution. When the house passes the address to the Crown, it expresses its willingness to grant supplies. This consent carries with it assent to the creation of the body out of which all questions of supply must originate. Hence the merely formal motion, not debatable, and of which no notice is required, is passed, creating the committee of supply. See May 25th, Rule 95; English Standing Order 64. See also English Hansard, 1848 (1887). The latter part of the resolution refers to something which is to be done in the committee of the whole. The committee are to consider a matter which involves a charge on the public, and under rule 96 such motions can only be introduced by notice, and must be referred to the committee of the whole for consideration. According therefore to rule 96, if the house cannot take cognizance of any matter of supply until it has been first considered in a committee of the whole, it would seem that there could be no amendment of the matter coming within the range of the budget, because it is not before the house and cannot be so brought until the committee reports favorably 'That a supply be granted,' and the matter is then brought before the house by the budget speech. This would reduce the range of possible discussion to narrow limits. The only question, it seems to me, the house has to consider at present must be, Is the present time suitable to consider the question 'That a supply be granted?' and as all motions are debatable, except where expressly provided by the rules to the contrary, and I can find no authority affecting the application of the general rule to motions under Rule 96, I must decide that discussion covering that point will be in order, limited as before stated."

Mr. Sword thereupon moved that before considering the question of granting supply to Her Majesty, the bill which is proposed to introduce bearing on the subjects touched on in His Honor's speech, or any other important measure, should first be submitted to the house.

Mr. Speaker explained that the only thing that could be debated at the present stage was a motion of adjournment, and that should be dealt with immediately, such as a riot or insurrection.

Hon. Col. Baker said that if Mr. Sword wanted to take the feeling of the house as to whether the government should bring down the policy as it is, the estimates a vote could be taken, but the object of just wasting time to keep the estimates from coming down, was another thing.

Mr. Speaker ruled the motion out of order. The government had the right of bringing down the policy as it is. Mr. Kennedy held that the opposition had every right to oppose supply, if there were grievances they wished redressed and this was what the opposition were doing.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the time to debate this was when the motion was made to go into committee of supply, and not before.

Mr. Sword appealed from the ruling of the Speaker.

Mr. Speaker—"Shall the chair be sustained?"

A chorus of ayes was raised, but Mr. Sword said that he appealed for the purpose of discussing the question, and time should be given for that before the vote was put.

Mr. Speaker gave this permission, and Mr. Sword proceeded shortly to repeat his objections.

The vote was then taken on the question, and the chair was sustained on the following division of 19 to 10.

Yeas—Messrs. Sword, Kennedy, Foster, Macpherson, Kidd, Vedder, Williams, Semlin, Cotton, Graham—10.

Nays—Messrs. Huff, Smith, Munter, Baker, Turner, Martin, Ribbet, Adams, Higgins, Stoddard, Walkem, Pooley, Eberts, Bryden, Rogers, Hunter, Irving, Braden, McGregor—19.

The motion that Mr. Speaker leave the chair was carried, and the house went into committee of the whole, Mr. Hunter in the chair.

On the question "shall supply be granted to Her Majesty?"

Mr. Semlin renewed objections to granting supply, saying distribution should be brought down first.

Hon. Col. Baker replied that the redistribution bill was not an extraordinary bill, but brought down once in four years, and therefore there was no necessity to bring it down before the estimates. The opposition could not suppose that they could dictate to the government how they should bring down their policy.

Mr. Kennedy claimed that former redistributions had not been satisfactory and until they knew what the bill was the opposition were quite justified in opposing it.

Mr. Semlin moved in amendment to the motion "that supply be not now granted."

Mr. Foster, discussing the amendment, argued that three-fourths of the population of some districts were deprived of their votes, and while there was a government who refused to do justice the opposition were justified in refusing to grant supply.

Mr. Sword went on to say until the opposition knew how the promises made by the government were to be fulfilled the house should not grant supply.

Mr. Macpherson proceeded in the same strain as the other opposition speakers. He claimed that before elections there were always large appropriations brought down, and the only construction that could be put upon it was that it was an attempt to bribe the electors with their own money. (Cries of Oh!)

Hon. Col. Baker called the member to order, as Mr. Macpherson had no right to impute motives.

Mr. Graham and Mr. Kennedy followed, the latter claiming that the 12 opposition members represented more votes than the 21 members on the government side. The opposition represented 8,250 votes and the government 8,047.

The Premier—"The votes cast on the government side were 17,567 votes and on the opposition 13,478."

The Premier too raised the point that Mr. Kennedy was not in order, the subject not being relevant to the question under discussion.

Mr. Kennedy continued, and in the midst of a mass of figures asked why two men in South Nanaimo were worth four men in Delta.

Mr. Kiddle (jokingly)—"Why, because they are better men." (Laughter.)

Mr. Kiddle and Mr. Vedder followed, and one by one the opposition spoke, and then began it all over again.

Mr. Foster in the course of some remarks admitted that the various deputations from the various parts of the province had gone home well satisfied with their treatment by the government, but he intimated that this showed that the government were using the public money to bribe the electors.

At half-past four the amendment of the leader of the opposition was put by the chair and lost.

When the chairman was about to put the main motion Mr. Sword rose to speak.

The Premier, rising to a point of order, quoted from May to show that the main question had to be put forthwith.

Mr. Sword differed, and held that it was for the house to decide whether or not to move another amendment.

Hon. Mr. Pooley took the view that the house having settled that the words "that supply be not granted" should not be part of the question, the house should decide upon the main question "shall supply be granted?"

Then followed some discussion on the point of order, and the chairman finally ruled that there could be no amendment to the main motion.

With this ruling, and contending that it was competent to move another amendment.

Mr. Speaker was called in, and the difficulty stated to him by the chairman.

Mr. Speaker ruled that as the words proposed to be inserted in the question were not in the question, the vote should now be taken on the main motion.

The committee of the whole was resumed and the chairman put the main motion, which was carried and the committee of the whole adjourned.

It was then moved by the Premier that supply be granted.

This was carried and the Premier moved that the house go into committee of supply on Monday next.

He was quite sure, he remarked, smiling, that as soon as the opposition saw the estimate posted in the affairs of the province they would, no doubt, go into committee at once and allow the business of the country to proceed, especially as there were several important bills coming down soon.

Mr. Sword moved that instead of Monday, that the word "Friday" be inserted. As the Premier had intimated that several important bills would come down next week it would give time to discuss them before the estimates were brought down.

Mr. Sword's motion was lost and the main motion was carried forthwith.

Several of the opposition inquiring when returns would be brought down.

The Premier took occasion to call attention to the expense the country was put to by the seeking for returns that had already appeared in other forms. It was not only a waste of time of the public servants but it was a source of enormous amount of expense. One had only to look at the sessional papers of last year to see the returns asked for could just as easily have been obtained if members went through the public accounts. Something like \$5000 unnecessary expenditure had been caused by so much asking for returns.

Mr. Semlin replied that it took the time of the members to get out returns asked for, how much more time would it take a layman to do the work.

RETURN PRESENTED.

Hon. G. B. Martin presented a return of correspondence and papers relating to log scaling. This contains a petition from lumbermen for a uniform compulsory system of scaling, the costs to be borne equally by buyer, seller and the government; he asked to be sized by the Lieutenant Governor in council or by statute; that official scales be paid by fees, and if either party disagree to the scale a second scale be called in, or a third if necessary, the petition being signed by D. McIntyre, James McWhinney, W. McPherson, W. A. McDonald, W. H. Higgins, N. Morin and 126 others, and is dated Feb. 22, 1892.

The reply of Hon. G. B. Martin is appended, acknowledging the receipt of the petition, and saying that he would lay the petition before the government and that he would notify them as to what date would be convenient for the government to meet a delegation of lumbermen.

REPORTS.

The committee on private bills and standing orders reported that they had considered the petition of the Duncan-Laird Railway Co. and found the standing rules had to have been complied with. The time for publishing notices had not fully expired before the time limited for the deposit of copies of the petition and notices with the clerk, but as the bill was

presumably in the public interest, the committee was of opinion that the rules should be suspended so as to admit of the bill being introduced.

The report was received and adopted. The railway committee recommended that in the preamble of the Yukon Railway and Navigation Co. words be inserted allowing the railway to start "from such point in British Columbia capable of being reached by an ocean port as may be designated by the Dominion government, under the provisions of the contract entered into between the said government and William Mackenzie and Donald D. Mann, and dated the 25th day of January, A. D. 1898." The report was received and adopted.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

The following bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Helmecken—To incorporate the Kootenay Lake, Duncan and Lardner Railway.

PETITION PRESENTED.

The following petition was presented and received:

By Mr. Sword—From H. Herschell-Cohen for a bill to incorporate the Portland and Sitka Railway.

A petition, presented by Mr. Kellie, from people of Tair asking for aid for street improvements, as dealing with the expenditure of public funds.

HIGHWAY BILL.

The Highway bill which Mr. Graham has introduced in the legislature is with a view to having the rule of the road changed, in as far as at least that portion of the province east of the Cascades is concerned.

The bill provides that in driving one must turn to the left. It was brought in by the late Mr. Kitchen in 1892, and up till that time there was no particular law, each locality pleasing itself in this respect as to custom.

Mr. Graham stated that three of the upper country do not find turning to the left as convenient, as on mountain roads the driver needs to be on the outside in order to be able to guard against going over the edge of the road.

His idea is that, though perhaps convenient for cities, the present law of the road is not suited to mining or mountainous regions.

DEATH OF MR. HUTCHESON.

The Well Known Head of "The Westside" Dies of Pneumonia in Toronto.

A private telegram was received in the city last night at 8:30 announcing the death at the General Hospital in Toronto of Mr. Jas. Hutcheson of the firm of J. Hutcheson & Co., proprietors of the Westside dry goods house, on Government street, and Hutcheson left Victoria on the 3rd inst. for the east with the object of improving his health which had been failing for a short time.

It was also his intention to transact some business for his firm while there. He arrived in Toronto on the 10th inst. and the same day contracted a severe cold, which later developed into pneumonia. On the advice of Dr. Caven, who attended him, he went to the general hospital for treatment and on Saturday last a telegram was sent to Mrs. Hutcheson, saying there was not much hope of his recovery. Later despatches, however, reported him as improving, but again yesterday morning he was found dead in his bed.

Mr. Hutcheson's death arrived. The news of his death was received by his wife and children, and they will return home this morning.

The deceased was 60 years of age, and a native of Belfast, Ireland. He came to Victoria in 1858, and shortly afterwards went into mining in the Cariboo country. Later he returned to Victoria, and in 1880 he returned to Victoria and organized the firm of Hutcheson, Young & Co., who established the White House dry goods store. He was connected with this enterprise until 1888.

Mr. F. S. Macleure, who established The Westside, No. 70 Government street, with which institution he was connected as senior partner until his death. The deceased leaves a wife and daughter, who reside at No. 38 Victoria crescent, and a son, Frank, who is at present in Victoria.

The news of Mr. Hutcheson's death was not unexpected, but comes, nevertheless, as a severe shock to his family, and as a matter for deep regret among his many friends. He was a well known and much respected private citizen in Victoria.

The remains will be embalmed and shipped home for interment.

Will be found an excellent remedy for sick headache, Carter's Little Liver Pills. Thousands of letters from people who have used them prove this fact. Try them.

WRANGLER WILL BOOM.

Mr. Bethune Leaves for the North to Advance Building Arrangements for His Company.

Among the passengers leaving for the city of Wrangel by the Amur last evening was Mr. J. T. Bethune of the owning company, whose special mission is to at once arrange for the placing on the market of the island of Wrangel.

Mr. Bethune is a Canadian, and the island owned by the Klondike Mining, Trading & Transport Corporation, and adjacent to the present townsite. Several important buildings will be erected under his personal supervision, for which lumber is being taken up on the steamer, and Mr. Bethune will also begin a series of sidewalks and the foundations for a commodious wharf.

Before returning home he will arrange for the placing of Sitka Island in the hands of the Klondike Mining, Trading & Transport Corporation, and will then go up the river if time permits, making his way as far as Glenora, where he is to select a site for the wharf and warehouse to be constructed there.

The townsite at Wrangel and Sitka islands have already been surveyed and plotted, and lots promise to be in great demand as soon as they are obtainable. Two of the passengers sailing North by the Lakme yesterday will be among the earliest purchasers of the island.

The report on the Klondike Railway bill was adopted, the bill read a third time and passed.

Mr. Hunter in moving the second reading of the Kootenay and Northwest Railway bill, said that from 115 degrees north longitude, near where the Kootenay river crossed the international boundary at the 49th parallel, there ran northwest for a thousand miles a great rut or furrow that was generally believed to have been formed by a glacier moving northwest to southeast. Geology teaches that this huge furrow was at one time an immense inland lake. Along its course were found the Kootenay, Columbia, Frazer and other large

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With those painful Corns and Bunions any longer. Russell's Corn Cure will effectually remove them without the slightest pain. Try it. Sold by all Druggists. 25c.

200 pairs men's tweed pants, \$1.25 pair. B. Williams & Co.

PRIVATE MEMBERS DAY.

A Number of Railway Bills Advanced a Stage by the Legislature.

Lieutenant-Governor Attends to Give His Assent to the Claims Advertisement Act.

Private bills occupied the legislature yesterday afternoon and several measures were advanced a stage or two. During the sitting His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor attended to give his formal assent to the passage of the Claims Advertisement bill, so that it could become law at once.

The house was opened with prayer by Rev. W. Leslie Clay.

Mr. Kellie received permission to introduce a bill intitled "The Truck Act," and the bill was read a first time.

"An Act to amend the Water Clauses Consolidation Act, 1897," was introduced by Mr. Graham and read a first time.

MOTIONS.

Mr. Helmecken moved for correspondence between J. J. McKenna, representing the Dominion government, and any member of the provincial government respecting negotiations for the settlement of the Songhees reserve question.

This was agreed to.

Mr. Semlin moved for copies of all instructions given to L. B. Hamlin, civil engineer, in regard to his examination of the Tair, and the bill was read a first time.

This too was agreed to. Hon. G. B. Martin saying the government would be very happy to supply the information asked for.

Mr. Graham asked for returns of correspondence and the evidence regarding certain charges against Constable Hunter during the summer of 1897.

Hon. Col. Baker had no objection to this, but the correspondence was very long and it would not be a great deal to print. Mr. Semlin made a few remarks that could not be heard by the reporters, and the motion was agreed to, and during the afternoon the returns were presented.

HIS HONOR'S ASSENT.

At this stage of the proceedings the Lieutenant-Governor entered the house and taking his seat in the Speaker's chair, assented to the "Act respecting applications for certificates of improvements under the Mineral Act."

Mr. Adams moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, that the house take into consideration the advisability of disposing of the placer lands of the province under the crown grant system.

Dr. Walkem objected to a question of policy being allowed to be brought in by a private member.

Mr. Smith was of opinion that while many people believed that placer land should be crown granted, it would be well for the government to carefully safeguard any such provision so that the land should not be lost to the people.

Dr. Walkem renewed his objection to a private member bringing up a matter of public policy in the house as the government had no right to delegate their rights to a private member.

Mr. Smith said that he had only waited for an opportunity to ask Mr. Adams to withdraw his motion, as the government had already the matter under their consideration and would submit it to the mining committee.

Mr. Speaker then called the motion of Mr. Adams out of order.

QUESTION.

Mr. Higgins asked the Premier if it was the intention of the government to provide in the estimates for the restoration of official salaries to the scale in force previous to 1896.

The Premier replied: "The estimates are being prepared, and will be before the house early, and the information asked for may be obtained."

PRIVATE BILLS.

On the motion to go into committee of the whole on the Mountain Tramway & Electric Co. bill, a meeting called for the purpose of increasing the capital of the company was held at the residence of Mr. J. T. Bethune.

The Premier called for the contents of the bill, and the committee was instructed to consider the following as an addition to section 15:

"(a) Before the said company shall exercise any of the powers aforesaid in respect of any proposed tramway, it shall give notice as provided by section 4 of the Tramway Company Incorporation Act, stating the points between which it is proposed to build such tramway, telegraph or telephone line, and the general route of the same."

Any person who would be entitled under section 5 of the Tramway Company Incorporation Act, to object to the incorporation of a company under said act for the building of such line, may give the same notice of objection as would be required in the case of such a company, and none of the powers aforesaid shall, in respect of the line so objected to, be exercised by the company until such objections have been heard and disposed of, as provided in the case of a company applying for incorporation under said act for the purpose of building such tramway, telegraph or telephone line, and then only to the extent authorized and under the conditions imposed by the Lieutenant-Governor in council.

He explained that he moved this with the view of seeing that the company secure no advantage in building a particular tramway over a company specially incorporated to build over the same route.

The motion carried and the house went into committee of the whole on the bill, Mr. Forster in the chair.

The committee rose, reported progress and adjourned till six o'clock.

The report on the Klondike Railway bill was adopted, the bill read a third time and passed.

Mr. Hunter in moving the second reading of the Kootenay and Northwest Railway bill, said that from 115 degrees north longitude, near where the Kootenay river crossed the international boundary at the 49th parallel, there ran northwest for a thousand miles a great rut or furrow that was generally believed to have been formed by a glacier moving northwest to southeast. Geology teaches that this huge furrow was at one time an immense inland lake. Along its course were found the Kootenay, Columbia, Frazer and other large

rivers, and it was a fact that rich auriferous areas and fertile agricultural lands were found along its course. It was along this valley that it was proposed to run this railway from Golden, south to the mouth of the Fraser, and north through the valleys of the Columbia, Canoe, Fraser and Parsnip rivers to Teslin lake. The railway would be about 1,700 miles. The house could see the Dominion government's strong claims in British Columbia to representation in the Dominion cabinet, and to ask for such appointment at an early date.

By Mr. Williams—"That the government in granting lands to the Nelson & Fort Sheppard Ry. Co. exceeded the powers conferred by the Nelson & Fort Sheppard Ry. Subsidy Act, 1892."

NOTICES OF QUESTION.

By Mr. Vedder—"To ask the Chief Commissioner the total amount expended on Matsqui dyke under the supervision of Inspector Fowler up to February 28, 1892."

By Mr. Kellie—"To ask the Finance Minister what offer was made to supply copies of the Diamond Jubilee Souvenir of North Kootenay, and do the government intend to accept the offer made?"

By Mr. Kellie—"To ask the Attorney-General why was \$20 a month in aid of a watchman at Revelstoke cancelled; why was John Thain's authority as constable taken away; do the government pay any portion for watchman's services in unincorporated villages, and if so, where?"

A short discussion followed as to the best method of improving the acoustics of the chamber, and as most of this was carried on in a conversational tone, the reporters could not distinctly make out what was said.

REPORTS.

The railway committee reported the preambles proved of the bill to incorporate the Skeena Railway Colonization & Exploration Co., and the bill to incorporate the Skeena River & Eastern Railway, and submitted the bills with amendments.

The house adjourned shortly after six o'clock.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

By Hon. Col. Baker—"Whereas by section 91 of the 'British North America Act' it is provided that 'the exclusive legislative authority of the parliament of Canada extends to all subjects not hereafter enumerated, that is to say: Sub-section (11)—Quarantine and establishment of marine hospitals. Sub-section (25)—Aliens. Sub-section (29)—Such classes of subjects as are expressly excepted in the enumeration of the classes of subjects by this act assigned exclusively to the legislatures of the provinces. And by section 95—'It is hereby declared that the parliament of Canada may from time to time make laws in relation to 'immigration into all or any of the provinces; and whereas thousands and tens of thousands of people from numerous parts of the world are flocking to the Yukon territory in search of gold; and whereas a large number of these people are inexperienced and ignorant of the nature and difficulties connected with their undertaking, are many of them not British subjects, and are not bona fide immigrants, and are engaged in criminal and other unlawful enterprises; and whereas numerous disappointments and failures must be the natural outcome of such a state of affairs, thus throwing upon society a large number of sick and indigent persons, criminals, and people of unsound mind; and whereas from its geographical position in relation to the Yukon territory, the province of British Columbia becomes the easiest refuge for such an undesirable class of people; and whereas the large revenue derived from the immigration to the Yukon district is almost wholly absorbed by the Dominion government; therefore be it resolved, that the Dominion government be asked to take effective steps to prevent the immigration to prevent sick and indigent persons, criminals and lunatics who are not British subjects from immigrating to British Columbia, and to take effective steps for the reception and maintenance of such persons, criminals and lunatics who may be landed in British Columbia."

By Mr. Cotton—"To move in committee of the whole on the C. P. N. Co., Ltd., bill to insert sections to the effect that the capital stock of the company may be increased from time to time to any amount, if such increase be sanctioned by vote of shareholders representing two-thirds in value of the subscribed capital stock of the company, and a meeting called by thirty days notice. Also that the company may issue guaranteed or preferred stock upon such conditions as are authorized by the majority in value of the shareholders given at the annual meeting or special meeting of the company for the purpose at which at least two-thirds of the value of the subscribed capital of the company shall be present either in person or by proxy."

By Mr. Kellie—"Whereas the United States tariff, known as the Dingley Bill, increased the duty on the lead contents of ore going into that country from three-quarters of one cent per pound to one and one-half cents per pound, and the duty on lead bullion from one and one-half cents per pound to two and one-half cents per pound, and whereas the additional duty placed by the Dingley tariff on our lead ore and bullion entering the United States has a detrimental effect on the mining and smelting industries of British Columbia; and whereas the Canadian tariff is not on the same standard of prices contained in the Dingley bill would retain a home market for the product of our mines and smelters, and would prove advantageous in creating large establishments for the manufacture of lead commodities, as well as retaining the smelting of our ore within our own country; therefore, be it resolved, that the Dominion government be asked to take into consideration the advisability of increasing the import duty on lead bullion and ore to the same standard of rates contained in the Dingley tariff."

By Mr. Sword—"Whereas the province of British Columbia received from the Dominion of Canada, in 1874 and 1875 two sums amounting in the aggregate to \$339,150, and such sums were treated as an increase of the provincial debt, and the annual payment of interest (due from the Dominion to the province on the amount of such debt) the debt of the province of British Columbia fell short of the debts of the other provinces) proportionately reduced, resolved, that it would be in the interest of the province that the above sums so advanced should not be repaid to the Dominion."

By Mr. Macpherson—"To move in committee on Mountain Tramway & Electric Co., B. C. Metalliferous Mines bill, Nanaimo Electric Light & Power bill, and C. P. N. Co. bill, to put in a clause prohibiting the employment of Chinese or Japs on the works."

By Mr. Williams for a return showing the number of voters in the various electoral districts of the province and the number of applications to be placed on the voters list up to date.

Mr. Sword to ask leave to introduce a bill to amend the Tramway Incorporation Act.

Dr. Walkem—"To ask leave to introduce a bill to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act."

Mr. Kennedy—"To ask leave to introduce a bill to amend the Liquor Traffic Regulation Act."

By Mr. Helmecken—"To urge on the Dominion government the strong claims of British Columbia to representation in the Dominion cabinet, and to ask for such appointment at an early date."

By Mr. Williams—"That the government in granting lands to the Nelson & Fort Sheppard Ry. Co. exceeded the powers conferred by the Nelson & Fort Sheppard Ry. Subsidy Act, 1892."

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