

The \$25,000,000 authorized stock has not been sold, but has been illegally issued as fully paid up stock to Messrs. Foley, Welch and Stewart.

The P. G. E. Co. has already sold guaranteed bonds to the amount of \$20,160,000, realizing \$18,035,198, which was handed over to the company contrary to statute. This illegality was admitted by Premier Bowser in the house on May 15th of this year, and defended on the ground it was necessary to save the contractors from bankruptcy. A further guarantee of \$11,550,000 has been authorized.

Contrary to the Premier's statement that Messrs. Foley, Welch & Stewart had put into construction \$9,000,000 over and above the \$18,000,000 advanced by the government, Chief Engineer Gamble's report shows the amount expended is only \$18,802,805.

Another \$6,000,000 was voted for the P. G. E. Ry. Co. at the last session.

N.B.—The Railway Act of 1912 has been completely ignored as to its demand for an annual report by the Minister of Railways.

The entire affairs of this company, its financial position, its methods of construction, its relation to subsidiary companies and its treatment of sub-contractors and laborers call for immediate and thorough investigation. But according to the B. C. Railway Act, incorporated with the P. G. E. Railway Act practically, no such investigation can be held without the consent of the company itself. It enacts that any information or evidence given to the Minister of Railways "shall not be open to the public or published, but shall be for the information of the minister only." (Sec. 283 (a) Chap. 194, R.S.B.C. 1911.)

The above synopsis is proved by the "Votes and Proceedings" of the last session of the Legislature, which also prove that **MESSRS. BOWSER, REID & WALLBRIDGE ACT AS SOLICITORS FOR BOTH THE P. G. E. RY. CO. AND P. WELCH, THE CONTRACTOR.**

PATRONAGE

The Vancouver School Board investigation and the investigations during last session of the legislature prove that the Bowser machine system actually exacts contributions for its upkeep on all public business, even profiting out of the money contributed for the education of our children. British Columbia has the opportunity of leading the whole of Canada in the complete abolition of this hateful system by electing the Liberals, who have definitely pledged themselves to abolish patronage and establish a non-partisan civil service commission.

We recommend these facts and figures to the most careful consideration of the electors and appeal to them to act at the polls as their conscience dictates.

(Signed) **G. R. WELCH**

J. R. ROBERTSON

JOHN MACKAY

A. E. COOKE

J. S. HENDERSON