Prorogued At Ottawa

Governor-General's Speech Alludes to the Rising Tide of Immigration.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Presented With His Portrait and an Address.

He Speaks of the Desire to Foster Art in the Dominion.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 15.—Prorogation took place this afternoon with the usual formalities and remarks from the Governor-General that might have been expected. The speech from the throne was as follows:

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate;

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

In relieving you from further attendance in parliament, I desire to thank you for the care and attention given to your important duties.

The unusual number of acts that have been passed incorporating industrial and railway companies, may be taken as an evidence of the rapid progress that Canada is making in wealth and prosperity. Further proof of that satisfactory condition is afforded by the increase in the trade and revenue of the country.

It has been gratifying to note the unprecedented flow of immigrants from Europe and from the United States that are now seeking homes in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. The rapid-increasing population in that fertile section of the Dominion must yearly add to the trade of the country.

The agreement entered into with the Canadian Pacific Railway company, when authorizing an increase of its capital, to expend over $9,000,000 in providing additional rolling stock, will, it is hoped, materially diminish in the future the serious losses that have arisen from the insufficient supply of cars to carry the products of the West to Eastern ports.

The amendments made to the Manitoba Grain Act, authorizing the farmers of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories to erect flat warehouses for storing their grain at railway stations, will, is believed, be found to serve a useful purpose, and defeat any attempt to depress prices by combinations.

The growing population in the Yukon territory and the rapid development in the trade of that section of Canada amply justify the act granting to its residents a representative in parliament who will be authorized to speak for its constituency in all matters affecting the more important interests of the people that remote part of the Dominion.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I thank you in His Majesty's name for the liberal supplies you have granted for the public service.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate;

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

In bidding you farewell, I desire to express the hope that when we meet next year we shall be able to again rejoice in the continued prosperity which now prevails over this wide Dominion.

In all 114 acts have been passed.

After this ceremony, there was a large gathering of ladies and gentlemen in the commons chamber, where a pleasing event occurred. The Premier's friends and admirers presented him with his portrait by J. Colin Forbes. Chief Whip Talvert made the presentation, with the address expressing the loyalty and devotion of the Liberal party to their leader, and their admiration of his character.

In accepting the portrait, Sir Wilfrid spoke of the friendly feelings that existed between him and members of both parties. The Premier added that the portrait was the work of a distinguished artist who unfortunately had been obliged to seek his fortune in another land. It was a dream of his own that something should be done to encourage art in Canada, and that by the establishment of prizes or some other means the walls of the Commons chamber might be adorned with Canadian landscapes. As for this splendid portrait, he was sorry that it was not his good fortune to have son to whom he might leave it. Some day it might be hung on the walls of a national museum, not as memorial of the subject, but of the artist.

There were loud cries for Mr. Borden, and the leader of the Opposition, who had only heard of the incident a few moments before, stepped forward and offered his warm congratulations to the Premier on this tribute of his popularity. He observed that he had no amendment to offer to this address, and he shared in the hope that Sir Wilfrid would enjoy his coming visit to the Motherland.

In the Senate, Sir Mackenzie Bowell in discussing the Mackenzie & Mann claim referred to a statement made in the Commons that Sir Charles Tupper and the Conservative party had induced the Senate to repudiate the Yukon railway contract. Sir Mackenzie gave this statement a flat denial. Personally he never discussed the matter with Sir Charles, and as far as he knew, Sir Charles did not influence one member of the Senate.

A difficulty had arisen between Col. Evans and Major Merritt of the Second Mounted Rifles. It is said Major Merritt tried to get promotion over Col. Evans. Major Merritt is now reported sick, and Major Cameron is promoted to his position.

W. B. Scarth, ex-M. P., deputy minister of agriculture, died today after a lingering illness.

The Supreme court today gave judgment on the following British Columbia appeals: Cailom vs. Manley, allowed with costs; Union Steamship Co. vs. Grysdale, allowed with costs and action dismissed with costs; Briggs vs. Newcander, allowed with costs; Fawcett vs. Canadian Pacific railway, dismissed with costs for reasons given in the court below; Cleary vs. Boscowitz, dismissed with costs.

PRESBYTERIAN SYNODS.

Recommendations Passed at Caleton Place and Toronto Meetings.

Carleton Place, Ont., May 15.—At the Presbyterian synod of Montreal and Ottawa in progress here, recommendations were adopted yesterday suggesting the build for young people's societies. It was announced that the synod has subscribed $175,000 to the common fund of the century fund and stood first among the synods.

Toronto, May 15.—The Presbyterian synod of Toronto and Kingston has passed a strong resolution appealing to the authorities to suppress immoral posters.

SWEDISH STRIKES.

Many Men in Various Trades Stop Work.

Stockholm, Sweden, May 15.—Fully 5,000 persons here went out on strike today, and their ranks will be swelled tomorrow. Only a partial break has occurred at Malmo, where the printers, bookbinders and employes of the railroads are proceeding with their usual tasks. The tie-up at Helsingborg is complete.

Can you make four revolutions in the air before alighting?" asked the curious manager of the circus acrobat.

"Say," replied the acrobat, "I'm no Dutch American republic."—Ohio State Journal.

Provincial Legislature

An Afternoon Devoted to the Consideration of Private Bills.

V. and W. and V. and S. N. Railway Bills Discussed In Committee.

Legislative Chamber, May 14, 1902.

Rev. Joseph McCoy, M. A., offered prayer.

Mr. Curtis asked for the correspondence connected with the appointment of Frank Walker as police commissioner at Rossland; also correspondence re the Beamish case.

Hon. Mr. Eberts said there was no correspondence regarding the appointment of Frank Walker. The papers re the Beamish case would be brought down.

The House went into committee on the bill to amend the Vancouver and Westminster Railway Company's Act, Mr. Murphy in the chair.

The amendment sought is to extend the time for beginning construction to one year from the 31st of August, 1902.

Mr. Curtis moved the following as a new section:

"The mortgage bonds, debentures or securities issued by the company shall not in the aggregate exceed the fair cost price of the whole of the company's corporeal property, when its undertaking is completed ready for operation."

This was defeated.

Mr. Curtis moved to add a new section restricting the company's bonding powers to $25,000 per mile.

This was also defeated.

Mr. Curtis moved, that the company shall not have the right to purchase, lease or use any lands belonging to the province until it has entered into a contract with the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, with respect to such right, and upon such terms as to the employment of labor as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may prescribe.

He took occasion to remark, in support of his proposal, that the section was designed to prevent the employment of Oriental labor. Continuing, he attacked the C. P. R. and the government until called to order by the chairman.

Mr. Hunter opposed the amendment, as well as all Mr. Curtis' amendments, as they were merely placing obstacles in the way of railway construction.

Hon. Mr. Prentice pointed out that the proposed amendment would give almost unlimited powers to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

Hon. Mr. Eberts called attention to the fact that a resolution exactly in line with Mr. Curtis' amendment had been adopted by the House, on the initiative of the government, in the session of 1900. Mr. Curtis, in bringing in his amendment, was parading in borrowed plumage. The government had announced this session that they intended to bring down a bill to deal with this very subject.

In answer to Mr. McBride, the Hon. the Attorney-General read the report of the Minister of Justice on the disallowance of bills containing the anti-Asiatic labor clause. He believed unless those clauses were eliminated from the bills they would be disallowed. He read a despatch from the Under Secretary of State relating to the proposed disallowance. He again assured the House that he intended to bring in a bill dealing with the whole question before the end of the session. With reference to the report of Hon. David Mills to the Governor-General of Canada, he had not brought down, and could not, as he had never received it. He had explained this matter fully on two or three occasions.

The amendment was carried.

Hon. Mr. Eberts moved to strike out clause 3, prohibiting the employment of aliens during construction, on the ground that its presence in the bill would insure its disallowance at Ottawa.

Mr. Tatlow and Mr. Curtis opposed the motion, asserting, despite his assurances and explanations to the contrary, that the Hon. the Attorney-General was suppressing a portion of the disallowance correspondence.

Mr. Garden protested against the bill being jeopardized by the clause being retained. He was as much opposed to Asiatic labor as any member of the House, however, if the government undertook to bring in a bill dealing with all the acts containing similar clauses, he had no objection to its standing.

The committee then rose and reported progress, with leave to sit again.

V. & S. N. RAILWAY.

Consideration of the bill to incorporate the Victoria & Seymour Narrows Railway Company was resumed in committee of the whole, Mr. Fulton in the chair.

Some discussion was caused over the wording of the bill with regard to Alberni. Mr. Curtis wanted the bill to read that the road should be built from Nanaimo via the town of Alberni, and this was agreed to.

Mr. Curtis offered an amendment, confining the company's bonding powers to the actual cost of the railway on completion, which was defeated.

The committee rose and reported progress.

FIRST READINGS.

The following bills were introduced and read a first time:

Hon. Mr. Eberts—An act to enable Power Companies to Exercise the Powers set out in Part IV. of the Water Clauses Consolidation Act, without becoming specially incorporated.

Hon. Col. Prior—An act to further relieve the Members of Canadian Forces serving in South Africa from complying with the provisions of the Mineral and Placer Mining Acts in respect of Mining properties held by them.

The House then adjourned till 2 o'clock this afternoon.

SOLDIERS' MINING CLAIMS.

The bill introduced by Hon. Col. Prior provides as follows:

Whereas by the Canadian Contingent Exemption Act, 1900, and Amending Act, 1901, provision was made to protect the mining properties of those who left British Columbia to serve in the forces in South Africa;

And whereas it is found that the exemptions made by said acts are insufficient to adequately protect such properties, by reason of the continuance of hostilities;

And whereas it is expedient to further extend the exemptions provided by the said acts:

Therefore, His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the legislative assembly of the province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:

1. This act may be cited as the "Canadian Contingent Exemption Act, 1902."

2. The Canadian Contingent Exemption Act, 1900, and the Canadian Contingent Exemption Act Amendment Act, 1901, are hereby repealed.

3. All free miners' certificates held by members in any capacity of the Canadian or Imperial forces who are now serving, or who have served, in South Africa, and in force at the time said members left British Columbia, shall, without any further payment, be extended until midnight on the 31st day of May, 1903, all matters and things in the Mineral Act and amending acts and the Placer Mining Act and amending acts to the contrary notwithstanding.

4. The assessment work on all mineral claims so held under the provisions of the Mineral Act and amending acts by any member of any of the said forces now serving, or having served, in South Africa, shall be deemed to have been done one calendar month before the time of the holder leaving British Columbia, and therefrom continuously until midnight on the 31st day of May, 1903.

5. All claims that may be held under the Placer Mining Act and amending acts by any of the members of said forces shall be considered as laid over continuously from a day one calendar month before the holder thereof left British Columbia until midnight on the 31st day of May, 1903.

6. This act shall apply only to persons whose names shall be recorded in the office of each mining recorder in the province by the Minister of Mines, within three months from the coming into force of this act.

7. All gold commissioners and mining recorders shall record, on cause to be recorded, in proper form, all such matters and things as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

8. If any mineral claim or placer claim has lapsed, or the owner so serving, or having served, has become dispossessed thereof by reason of his being a member of such force, his interest in said claim shall be revived on the passage of this act, and he shall hold said claims until midnight on the 31st day of May, 1903, any statute to the contrary notwithstanding.

9. All acts, matters and things done under or by virtue of the acts hereby repealed are hereby declared to be lawful and effective, and any records of exemption made thereunder and free miners' certificates thereby extended shall remain in full force and effect, and shall be extended for the further term hereinbefore provided.

Legislative Chamber, May 15, 1902.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2:30 p.m.

Mr. McBride took exception to a report in the Ressland Miner to the effect that the opposition were obstructing business for the purpose of preventing Premier Dunsmuir from attending the coronation and the colonial conference in June.

He took advantage of the occasion to state the position and policy of the opposition. He declared they had no desire to obstruct business, and certainly no wish to prevent the representation of the province at the royal coronation. They were prepared to assist in the passage of supply if the government would give a pledge that they would do nothing to alienate the foreshore privileges, and that they would appeal to the country on their railway policy.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite's Workmen's Compensation bill was again committed to committee of the whole, Mr. Kidd in the chair.

On motion of Mr. McPhillips, section 6 was struck out and the following substituted:

6. Where any employer becomes liable under this act to pay compensation in respect of any accident, and is entitled to any sum from insurers in respect of the amount due to a workman under such liability, then in the event of the employer becoming bankrupt, making as assignment for the benefit of his creditors, or making a composition or arrangement with his creditors, or if the employer is a company of the company having commenced to be wound up, such workman shall have a first charge upon the sum aforesaid for the amount so due, and a judge of the Supreme court may direct the insurers, such sum in any chartered bank of Canada in the name of the registrar of any such court, and order the same to be invested or applied in accordance with the provisions of the first schedule hereto with reference to the investment in any chartered bank of Canada of any sum allotted as compensation, and those provisions shall apply accordingly.

Mr. Curtis' amendment that this act shall not apply to a prospect that is being developed, or to a mine that has not a regular output of metalliferous product, unless more than twenty-five men are employed in the development of such prospect or mine; and Mr. Hunter's amendment extending the exception to coal mines in which less than twenty-five men are employed, caused considerable discussion.

Mr. Curtis claimed that unless the amendment passed the bill would destroy the industry of prospecting.

Mr. McInnes argued that the same objection applied to small manufacturers who were just as well entitled to protection as prospectors. He did not believe in discriminating in favor of any particular class. Let the bill apply to all classes of industry or not to any of them.

Mr. Gilmour opposed Mr. Curtis' attempt to exempt the prospectors of his district from liability and have it enforced against all other interests.

Mr. Martin argued that the large mining and manufacturing concerns were not necessarily wealthy, as in the case of loss the stockholders suffered, and in many cases those stockholders were found among the poor classes of the community who had invested their savings in this way. Mr. Curtis had made an appeal for the poor man, the poor prospector, but his appeal was in reality on behalf of "company boosters," who were attempting to dispose of stock in mining properties. He moved an amendment making the act applicable to all mines, which was adopted.

An amendment, proposed by Mr. McInnes, exempting employers from liability for injuries to a workman caused by his own wilful negligence was adopted.

The committee agreed to the remaining sections of the bill, with one or two unimportant amendments, and rose and reported progress.

COAL MINES REGULATIONS.

The reports on Mr. Green's and Mr. E. C. Smith's bills to amend the Coal Mines Regulations Act were adopted and the bills were read a third time and passed.

THE WILLS ACT.

Mr. McPhillips' bill to amend the Wills Act was considered in committee of the whole, Mr. McInnes in the chair, and reported without amendment, and was read a third time and passed.

MUNICIPAL CLAUSES.

Mr. Curtis moved the second reading of his bill to amend the Municipal Clauses Act.

In the bill the qualification for mayor and alderman in cities was fixed at $500 worth of assessed real estate or the payment of at least $20 in taxes per annum, but since Mr. Curtis introduced the bill he had placed an amendment on the order paper, doing away with the property qualification.

Mr. Curtis said the City council of Victoria approved of his bill, which contains 18 sections and deals with many important matters.

Mr. Houston pointed out that the House had appointed a Municipal committee and that committee had drafted a bill and presented it to the House. He did not consider it advisable that the work of the committee should be set aside by a bill introduced by a single member who had not even attended a meeting of the committee. He therefore moved that the bill be read this day six months.

Mr. McInnes also deprecated Mr. Curtis 'introduction of a bill in the face of the work of the committee, which had, after a great deal of time and having enlisted all the advice and assistance available, introduced a bill which covered very fully all that was contained in Mr. Curtis' bill. Mr. Curtis might, more properly, have presented his suggestions to the committee and had them embodied in the bill.

Mr. McPhillips, while acknowledging Mr. Curtis' right to introduce his bill without reference to the Municipal committee, could not give it his support, as he could not agree with some of its provisions.

Mr. Martin took strong exception to the clauses in the bill proposing to abolish police commissioners and giving the council full control of the force. The system of commissioners had been adopted to remove the police out of the control of municipal politics. He could not approve of the proposal to abolish the commissioners and would oppose the second reading.

Mr. McBride agreed with Mr. Martin. It would be a grave mistake to imperil the usefulness of the police by placing them in a position where they might fall under the influence and control of ward politicians.

At 6 o'clock Mr. McBride moved the adjournment of the debate. This was defeated on the following division:

Yeas: Messrs. Hawthornthwaite, Neill, Gifford, Garden, Fulton, Curtis, Muuro, Tatlow, Green, McBride, McPhillips, Taylor, Kidd—13.

Nays: Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, Oliver, Hayward, Martin, Helmcken, Prentice, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Houston, Wells, Prior, Hall, Rogers, Hunter, Dickie, Mounce—21.

Mr. Curtis spoke for half an hour in defence of his bill, and Mr. Houston's motion was put and carried on a vote of 20 to 8.

PAN-AMERICAN EXHIBITION.

Hon. Col. Prior presented the report of the special commissioner to the Pan-American exhibition at Buffalo.

The House adjourned at 6:45 to sit again at 8:30 p.m.

NIGHT SITTING.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 8:45 p. m.

The Workmen's Compensation Act was was again taken up in committee of the whole, Mr. Kidd in the chair. The bill was reported complete with amendments.

BILLS OF SALE.

Mr. McPhillips bill to amend the Bills of Sale Act was considered in committee of the whole, Mr. Tatlow in the chair. An amendment proposed by Mr. Murphy changing the office for registration of bills of sale from Clinton to Ashcroft, met with considerable opposition from the members for Cariboo and Lillooet.

Mr. Curtis supported the amendment, and twitted other members for giving so much attention to what he looked upon as a trivial matter.

This led Mr. Hunter to remark that Mr. Curtis felt aggrieved that the question under discussion afforded him no opportunity to move an amendment. It was one of the rare occasions upon which Mr. Curtis had no chance to offer an amendment, and he hoped the House would sympathize with him in his hour of tribulation. It would down in history that on Thursday, May 15, 1902, Mr. Curtis had not proposed an amendment. (Laughter.)

Mr. A. W. Smith questioned the regularity of the amendment, and an appeal was taken to the Speaker, who reserved his decision.

The committee reported progress with leave to sit again.

ACTIONS AGAINST TRADES UNIONS.

Mr. Curtis moved the second reading of a bill respecting actions against Trades Unions and Kindred associations. He read an extract from the Review of Reviews in support of his contention that trades unions, under the present law, can be sued and their funds be made liable for damages for acts of violence, intimidation, threats or conspiracy done by any of their officers, members, agents, or servants. His bill proposed to protect the unions from injunctions and actions for damages as unions, but provided that actions might be brought against individual members. Such an bill had been suggested in England that a union should not be made liable excepting in cases where its council had expressly authorized the action complained of. Mr. Martin had introduced a bill on exactly those lines, but it did not go far enough. The principle of his bill was disclosed in section 3, which provided that no trade union or association shall be enjoined, nor shall any officer, member, agent or servant of such union or association nor any other person be enjoined, nor shall it or its funds, nor any such officer, member, agent, servant or other person be made liable in damages for communicating to any workman, artisan, laborer, employee or person facts respecting employment or hiring by or with any employer, producer, consumer or distributor of the products of labor or of any of them, or for such products, or for persuading or endeavoring to persuade by fair or reasonable argument, without unlawful threats, intimidation or other unlawful acts, such last-named workman, artisan, laborer, employee or person, at the expiration of any existing contract, not to renew the same with or to refuse to become the employee or customer of any such employer, producer, consumer, or distributor of the products of labor.

Mr. Curtis continued his argument to an almost empty House most of the members on both sides flying before the storm of his fervid outpourings. He read copious extracts from an article in the Forum, and concluded by answering a criticism of his bill in the Ross-land Miner.

Mr. Martin moved the adjournment of the debate and the House adjourned at 11:35 p. m.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

By Mr. Curtis, on Monday next:

That an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to lay before this House all correspondence between the Dominion government and the provincial government respecting general legislation passed during the years 1899, 1900, 1901 and 1902, and respecting the Chinese and Japanese in, or their immigration into, British Columbia, together with all documents and orders in council relating to the foregoing, and not already laid before the House.

By Mr. Curtis, on Monday next, questions of the Hon. the Attorney-General:

1. At whose request, or by whose advice was Frank Walker appointed a police commissioner of the city of Rossland? 2. When was such request made, or advice given, and to what member or members of the Government? 3. Has the said Frank Walker sent in his resignation as such commissioner? 4. If so, when? 5. Has it been accepted? 6. If not, why not? 7. If it has been accepted, has his successor been appointed? 8. If not, when will the appointment be made?

By Mr. Curtis, on Monday next, questions of the Hon. the Minister of Finance:

1. What was the overdraft of the provincial government on the 17th day of May, 1902? 2. At what bank or banks is such overdraft incurred, and how much of it at each bank? 3. What rate of interest is paid upon such overdraft, and at what intervals is it charged up to the province? 4. By virtue of what authority. Act or Acts are the loans constituting the overdraft made? 5. What is the limit in the amount beyond which the overdraft cannot legally, by Acts now in force, go? 6. By what amounts has the overdraft, including interest thereon, increased in the months of January, February, March and April, 1902, respectively? 7. What is it now estimated that the overdraft, including interest thereon, will, on the 30th June, 1902, amount to?

By Mr. McBride, on Monday next, questions of the government:

1. Is J. N. Greenshields, K.C., still in the service of the government? 2. If so, under what terms?

Mr. McPhillips to move, on the third reading of bill No. 35 intituled "An Act to amend the Creditors' Trust Deeds Act, 1901," to add a section to be numbered as section 5:

"5. The principal Act, being the Creditors' Trust Deeds Act, 1901, and this Act shall not be held so as to affect any litigation pending at the time of the coming into force of the principal Act of this Act."

Legislative Chamber, May 16, 1902.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2:30 p. m.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Prentice, the House proceeded to deal with private bills.

Mr. McBride asked if it was the intention of the government to bring down a new railway policy on Monday?

The question was ruled out of order as one of which notice should have been given.

Hon. Mr. Prentice explained that the object of taking up private bills was in order that something might be done—the opposition having declared their intention of obstructing public business.

P. N. AND O. RAILWAY.

Consideration of Mr. Ellison's bill to amend the Pacific Northern & Omineca Railway Act, was resumed in committee of the whole, Mr. Hayward in the chair.

Section 3, inserted as an amendment by Mr. Curtis, relating to the employment of aliens, was reconsidered.

Mr. Ellison said the insertion of this clause would in all probability cause the disallowance of the bill at Ottawa, and as the government had promised to bring down a bill dealing with the whole question of Asiatic labor, he hoped the House would consent to strike out the section.

Mr. McBride, on behalf of the opposition, accepted the assurance of the Hon. the Attorney-General, that an omnibus bill would be brought down, which would place the province definitely and effectually on record on this all-important question. The Hon. the Attorney-General had handed him all the correspondence received by the government, and he was satisfied that the position taken by the government was the correct one.

Mr. Curtis strongly opposed the elimination of the section, and declared if the motion carried he would not offer another amendment during the session. (Cries of hear, hear.)

He would put an anti-Mongolian labor section in every bill, and reassemble the Legislature, every time those bills were disallowed, to re-enact them.

Hon. Mr. Prentice pointed out the absurdity of Mr. Curtis' proposal every time the Legislature was assembled the cost to the country was $60,000.

Mr. McPhillips had always held the insertion of such provisions as ultra vires of a provincial legislature, and although he, as much as any honorable member, was opposed to Asiatic immigration and labor he would vote for striking out the clause.

Hon. Mr. Eberts said he was just as anxious as any honorable member could possibly be to keep out Asiatics, but the argument of certain honorable gentlemen that the clause was so artfully drawn that the Minister of Justice would fail to grasp its true meaning, struck him as absurd. If the House insisted upon it he would not oppose the retention of the clause, but he felt certain it would ensure the disallowance of the bill.

The section under discussion, and which was defeated, reads as follows:

Notwithstanding anything contained in the said Act, the company shall not have the right to purchase, lease or use any lands belonging to the province until it has entered into a contract with the provincial government with respect to such right, and upon such terms and in such manner as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may prescribe.

The bill was then reported complete with amendments.

VANCOUVER AND WESTMINSTER

The bill to amend the Vancouver & Westminster Railway Act, was again committed to the committee of the whole, Mr. Murphy in the chair. This bill was also reported complete with amendments.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

The report on the Workmen's Compensation bill was adopted.

V. AND S. N. RAILWAY.

The bill to incorporate the Victoria & Seymour Narrows Railway company was reported complete with amendments.

BILLS OF SALE.

In committee of the whole on Mr. McPhillips bill to amend the Bills of Sale Act, Mr. Tatlow in the chair. Mr. McPhillips offered a long amendment based on the Act in force in Ontario. Mr. Curtis rose triumphantly and declared the government had refused to accept an amendment proposed by him covering the same principle, and now they were stultifying themselves by a tacit agreement to Mr. McPhillips' proposal. He was glad, at last, to have caught the government in a straight act of duplicity.

Mr. Martin pointed out that Mr. Curtis was entirely mistaken, and pointed out the nature of his error, which Mr. Curtis was obliged to acknowledge. Mr. Martin, amid the laughter of the House, tendered Mr. Curtis his commiseration, remarking that it was too cruel that on the only occasion upon which he had scored, he squarely caught the government he was forced to acknowledge that he had jumped too soon to a conclusion.

The bill was reported complete with amendments.

TRADES UNIONS.

Mr. Martin resumed the debate on Mr. Curtis' bill respecting Trades' unions. He could not agree with the principles set forth in section 2, and he declared Mr. Curtis' desire was not to assist trades unions, but to secure credit to himself by a pretence of so doing. He was in favor of granting every possible immunity to trades unions, but declared he was not ready to grant something which was wrong in itself. The proposal of the bill was that a trades union might hold a meeting and resolve to do illegal acts, and appoint agents to carry out those acts, and having done this escape liability for damages caused by their action. The provision that the actual offender should be held liable was not sufficient, for he might be a man of straw, from whom no redress could be obtained. It would be monstrous that unions should be permitted, if they so desired, to engage the lowest and most irresponsible tools to commit breaches of the law and should be held exempt from responsibility for the acts of their creature. It was possible that one of these hired lawbreakers might inflict very serious damage upon a company or an individual, and the injured party would have absolutely no redress at civil law. It was no excuse or reason for this bill that the actual perpetrator of outrage or damage might be held guilty under the criminal law, the men who employed him should be amenable to the civil law. In cases of conspiracy and intimidation where a union engaged men to prevent others from working, the hirelings might be enjoined, but their employers, the union, might go on replacing them so long as they had funds in their treasury, and be perfectly free from punishment for their acts.

Mr. Martin was frequently interrupted by Mr. Curtis, who attempted to refute his statements.

Continuing, Mr. Martin pronounced the bill the most outrageous piece of legislation ever attempted to be put on the statutes. It proposed to make intimidation, threats and conspiracy legal so far as trades unions and "voluntary associations" were concerned. All they had to do was to engage men to carry out their unlawful schemes, and they would escape all responsibility. The poor men whom they might hire might be punished under the criminal law, but the parties primarily guilty could continue to outrage the law and be absolutely exempt from liability at either civil or criminal law. There was no possible objection to men combining for their mutual protection, and refusing to work except upon fair terms, and there was often justification in workmen joining in an agreement to refrain from patronizing a certain merchant or company. That was a right which any individual or combination of men might exercise at discretion and without offending against the law.

The objectionable feature of the proposed bill was the fact that a powerful labor union might inflict untold damage against employers through irresponsible agents, and escape all risk of having their funds made liable for the damage they had caused. He was a firm believer in and a friend of trades union, and it was as a friend that he opposed this outrageous proposal to legislate them as above and beyond reach of the law. Such legislation would destroy the usefulness of the unions, and render them the tyrants of employers and employees. It would weaken instead of strengthening their influence, and be the first step towards their disintegration. (Applause.)

Mr. Hawthornthwaite moved the adjournment of the debate.

SONGHEES RESERVE.

Mr. Helmcken asked if the government were prepared to make an announcement regarding the settlement of the Songhees reserve? He understood the matter had been practically settled between the governments, and he would like to know what the provincial government proposed to do in the way of providing a new reserve and the removal of the Indians.

Hon. Mr. Eberts said the government were giving the question their serious consideration. They had not as yet fixed upon a new location for the Indians, and they could make no arrangements for their removal until such time as they could secure a reserve that would be in every way satisfactory to the Songhees, who were deserving of every consideration at the hands of the government.

The House then adjourned till 2 o'clock p. m. on Monday.

A PRESENTATION.

The members showed their appreciation of the courtesy and obliging disposition of the assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr. H. Gerrard Mason, yesterday, by assuring him of their good wishes and esteem and presenting him with a well filled purse. Mr. Mason leaves today for Steveston, where he will occupy a responsible position in one of the large canneries.

STARVATION THREATENING

Sickness and Want of Food Add to Troubles of St. Vincent.

Kingstown, Island of St. Vincent, Tuesday, May 13.—No person has yet been able to approach within eight miles of the new crater of Soufriere volcano, but judging from what can be seen from a considerable distance, the lake at the summit of the mountain has disappeared. The numerous fissures in the mountain sides continue to throw out vapor. During the afternoon of Monday a dense volume of steam and smoke rose from the volcano and the whole island was covered by a peculiar mist, the inhalations of obnoxious vapors increasing the spread of sickness. An ambulance corps from the Island of Barbadoes has arrived here.

Starvation threatens the populace of the afflicted district. Mutilated bodies are tied with ropes and dragged to the trenches where they are buried. Sometimes bodies are not even buried.

The local government is feeding and sheltering about 3,000 refugees. Subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers are being received in all the British West India Islands.

Scientists who have come here from the British Island of Trinidad, predict another volcanic eruption on St. Vincent within a short time.

The damage done to St. Vincent by the volcanic eruptions is now known to be considerably greater than was at first estimated. The present uneasiness of the inhabitants of the island is increased by the continuous agitations of the volcanis craters. Friday morning, May 9 large stones and volcanic dust fell in the neighborhood of Georgetown for two hours, terrifying the people there. A cloud of hot vapor then passed over that port. The eruptions were of less magnitude than the first that occurred Saturday, May 10, and from then until today fire and smoke have been ascending at intervals from the craters. Owing to the great heat it is still impossible to approach the Soufriere volcano from the Leeward side.

Interesting discoveries have been made in regard to the physical changes on St. Vincent resulting from the eruptions. Several fissures have been observed on La Soufriere. The estate of Wallbon has disappeared and has been replaced by an inlet of the sea.

Richmond, an estate formerly adjacent to Wallbon, which was formerly flat and planted with cotton, only now shows the laborers cottages, has been completely burned and out of the estate there now arises a large ridge of ground. It is believed that the Rabbaci crater in the Leeward district of the island has also erupted.

From a distance La Soufriere, although less violent, still wears a cap of dark clouds, which is illuminated every now and then by flashes of red light.

Volcanic dust fell here again yesterday, but fortunately there have been also several heavy rains, which have washed away the dust from the grass and restoring the verdure of the fields.

Owing to the destruction of several estates the output of the sugar and arrow root industry of St. Vincent are seriously injured. Destitution prevails among the laboring classes, who are without homes, without clothes, and hungry. Nearly 2,000 deaths on the island have been reported. Bodies have been discovered in houses in life like attitudes. These present a gruesome spectacle. There are decomposed bodies in many houses, and in order to guard against disease, it will probably be necessary for the authorities to burn those dwellings down.

As wide areas of ground which formerly produced food stuff have been devastated, there is today an abnormal demand for bread-stuffs, and a scarcity of food supplies. Prices on food are enormous. The destruction of live stock on the island has caused a rise in the price of meat. A British warship has arrived here from Trinidad. She brings provisions for the relief of the sufferers.

London, May 15.—Two messages expressing sympathy regarding the loss of life at St. Vincent have been received at the foreign office here from the United States government, one was private and the other official. The former was verbal, presented by Mr. Choate, the United States ambassador, which only reached Mr. Chamberlain this afternoon. He immediately wrote to the Foreign Office, desiring Lord Lansdowne to very gracefully acknowledge it and to accept President Roosevelt's offer.

The Colonial Office practically asks the Associated Press to announce that any relief intended for the inhabitants of the Island of St. Vincent can for the present, be safely sent, and will be wisely distributed.

MORE MISSIONARIES.

Toronto, Ont., May 15.—The executive committee of the Methodist Woman's Missionary Society, today appointed the following missionaries: Miss Mary Sherwood, Fergus, Ont., for Upper Skeena, B. C. district; Miss Morgan Baker, Ridgetown, Ont., Kittemaat, B. C.; Miss Morgan Sherlock, Toronto, for Chinese work in Victoria, B. C.

"My father is real rude to the young men who call on me," confided Miss Keedick to Miss Tessnot. "I don't suppose your papa tries to drive young men away."

"My papa isn't rude, but he's real mean to the young men," confessed Miss Tessnot. "He borrows money of them."—Detroit Free Press.

WOOD SAWING BY-LAW.

Deputation of Wood Dealers Had a Conference With Council Last Evening.

The struggles of the City Council over the Wood Sawing By-law are not yet at an end, as last night a deputation of the wood dealers of the city waited on that body to file their complaints against this recent piece of civic legislation. The deputation was a very representative one consisting of Messrs. Sayward, Baker, Moss, Painter, Davergne, Grice, Burt and Jones. The latter was the spokesman, and urged on behalf of the deputation that the time for delivering wood upon the streets within the fire limits of the city should be extended until from 8 a. m. until the hour of noon, and beyond those limits that the whole day should be open for this class of work. The wood dealers also consider that the purchasers of wood, and not the vendors should be responsible for any delay occurring in taking the wood off the streets, and that the proviso in the by-law requiring the permission of the neighbor across the street for the dumping of wood on the streets in certain cases, should be struck out.

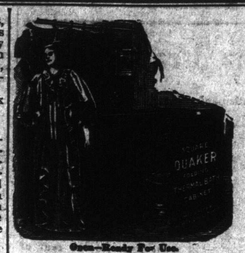
These various topics were all threshed out in an informal discussion with the deputation, who before retiring were assured by Mayor Hayward that the council would not overlook their interests and that the points raised would be given every consideration.

EVACUATION OF CUBA.

Ceremony to Take Place in Havana Next Week.

New York, May 15.—All the United States forces will assemble at the palace next Thursday at noon after the informal transfer of the government to the Cubans, says a despatch to the World from Havana. A national salute will be fired and then the United States flag on the palace will be lowered, the United States troops and Cuban artillerymen presenting arms. Gen. Gomez will then raise the Cuban flag, the troops presenting arms and a national salute being fired. The United States forces will immediately board a waiting steamer. Five batteries of artillery will remain until transferred to points where the naval stations are located. At these places the United States flag will fly within the fixed limits of the camp, but the United States troops will be amenable to the island civil laws. They are positively instructed not to interfere in Cuban affairs unless ordered to do so from Washington.

Governor-General Wood appointed all the judges for life, or during good behavior.



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MINERAL ACT.

Certificate of Improvements.

NOTICE.

"Red Gulch," "Queen," "Red Bluff," "Bell Helen," "Blue Stone" mineral claims. Situate in the Skeena Mining Division of Coast District.

Where located: On Red Gulch Creek, Oxtall (Ec stall?) Valley.

Take notice that The British Columbia Pyrites Company, Limited, Free Miner's Certificate B52977, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this 18th day of April, A. D., 1902.

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA PYRITES COMPANY, LIMITED.

Per ROBT. W. HAMILTON, Sec'y.

NOTICE.

STAR MINERAL CLAIM.

Situate in the Victoria Mining Division of Malahat District, and located on Malahat Creek.

Take notice that I, Mary Palmer, Free Miners' Certificate number B53821, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a certificate of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice, that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements.

Dated this 13th day of March, 1902.

MARY PALMER.

By P. J. Pear