

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE

RIGHT TO VOTE IS DENIED THE WOMEN

Female Suffrage Bill Defeated—Premier Refuses Amendment to Dewdney Relief Measure.

The standing committee on private bills and standing orders recommended that the time limited for the presentation of reports be extended until the 15th day of January (adjournive).

The report was received and adopted. The standing committee on private bills and standing orders reported that the standing orders had not been complied with as to publication of notice and presentation of petition in connection with the undermentioned petitions:

To amend the Vancouver Incorporation Foreshore Act, 1904; to amend the Grand Consolidated Mining, Smelting and Power Company Act, 1901.

The committee recommended that rules 57 and 59 be suspended, with reference to the above mentioned petitions. The report was received, the standing orders were suspended, and the report adopted.

Another Petition. A. H. E. Macgowan presented a petition from the Cascade Power and Light Co., Limited, opposing the private bill to amend the West Kootenay Power and Light Company, Limited, Act, 1905.

This was laid on the table. New Bill. On the motion of J. H. Hawthorthwaite a bill intitled "An Act to amend the Shops Regulation Act, 1900," was introduced, read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on tomorrow.

Back Train Claim. J. A. Beaman, moved, seconded by J. Murphy, that a select committee of this House, consisting of Messrs. Ross, Taylor, Young, Henderson and Patterson, be appointed to inquire into all matters relating to an application by Mr. John Elliott, as counsel for a flat for a petition of right to try certain questions relating to the mineral claim "Pack Train" with power to call for persons, papers and documents and to take evidence under oath, and to report the evidence and their findings to this House.

In support of the motion, Mr. Brown said the matter had been brought to the attention of the House toward the close of last session. Nothing was done in the matter, however, owing to the close of the session shortly afterwards. He said that on August 25th, 1890, a mineral claim was recorded in Rossland district, in a person acting under the name of Dunlop. Mr. Dunlop died in February, 1891, the claim, or a part of it, was staked by another. In 1885 application was made for a crown grant for the claim by Alex. Dunlop as administrator of the estate of his brother.

After going through the courts Hancy, who had acquired the rights in the mine, the law not being complied with by Dunlop, asks for an investigation. It was held that Hancy, through no mistake of his, had been deprived of his rights in this mine by reason of unfortunate circumstances.

No reflections were cast upon the members of the government. There was nothing political in this move. This was a case where a company of unbiased parties might arrive at a just conclusion. If it were shown that Hancy had not a right to the claim he could have no redress. If on the other hand it was found that he had rights which he had been deprived, he asked for justice.

It was held that the claim for the property had lapsed before the application was made for a crown grant by Alex. Dunlop.

Premier McBride moved the adjournment of the debate because he was not in possession of certain necessary papers. The debate was adjourned.

Resolutions. John Houston moved, seconded by W. Davidson: That an order of this House be granted for a return of all correspondence between any member of the government, employee of the lands and works department, member of the legislative assembly, manager of a chartered bank, C. F. Walmaley, W. B. C. Koch and others, in regard to timber leases on the Slocan River, Little Slocan Lake and Slocan River, in West Kootenay district, between the 21st May, 1900, and the 29th of January, 1906.

The resolution carried. W. Davidson moved, seconded by J. Houston: That an order of the House be granted for a return of all correspondence between the government and the New Denver Waterworks Company and any other person, in connection with the water record granted to said company in 1905.

The resolution carried. Kish Island Grant. J. A. Macdonald moved, seconded by Dr. King: That a select committee,

consisting of five members of this House, namely, Messrs. Macgowan, Ross, Manson, Munro and the mover, be appointed to inquire into all matters pertaining to the acquisition or attempted acquisition, by the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company, or by any other person or persons or bodies corporate, of crown lands in the vicinity of Tucker Island, Kaitai Island or other islands on the mainland in the vicinity of Kaitai Island, with power to summon witnesses, call for papers, documents, letters, telegrams and records, and to take evidence under oath, and to report the evidence and their findings on the same.

In support of this Mr. Macdonald said that the resolution called for an investigation into the grant made in March, 1905, of 10,000 acres to the Grand Trunk Pacific.

It was quite clear that the legality of the grant depended upon the truth of the statement made in the agreement that it was for public advantage. If it could not be upheld that the grant was for the public advantage but a bonus for the company then the grant was illegal. The only way to ascertain the facts was by means of a full inquiry into the grant. The policy of inquiry the people would want to know the reasons why.

Premier McBride said there was no objection from his side. The government was ready for the fullest investigation. He could dispel the impression that the land was given as a bonus. It was given for terminal facilities and a townsite. It was not many months ago that the Grand Trunk Pacific asked for aid from the government, and this was granted. The grant was a wise one, made in the interests of the public. It was a fortunate thing that the province was able to come to this agreement. The terminal sites in the north were very limited. At Port Simpson and Kitimat the lands had been alienated, and the same advantages would not have been secured by the province. On Kaitai Island there still remained a large reserve in the possession of the province. The policy of the government had been to remove reserves. He was agreeable to the resolution with the substitution of the names of J. F. Garden and Dr. Young instead of A. H. E. Macgowan and W. Manson, the two latter having asked to be left off the committee.

John Oliver said that he wished to correct some statements made by the premier. According to the statement there were 3,000 acres of unalienated land at Port Simpson. At Kitimat he could say that perhaps with one exception the lands alienated had been obtained from the lands department through the evidence of the premier himself, who had stated that the lands should not have been granted.

The resolution passed. Questions and Answers. J. Murphy asked the chief commissioner of lands and works the following questions:

1. Is it the intention of the government to provide for the construction of a ferry across the Fraser river at or near the town of Quesnel?

2. Is it the intention of the government to provide for repairs to the trail from Quesnel to Nechaco, with a view to rendering it passable as a sleigh road?

3. Is it the intention of the government to provide in the estimates for the construction of a bridge across the North Fork, Quesnel river, before high water in April next on the Quesnel Forks-Kelthley creek trail?

4. Is it the intention of the government to provide in the estimates for the completion of the sleigh road from Quesnel Forks to Kerthley creek next summer?

Hon. R. F. Green replied as follows: "1. The matter is under consideration. 2. Similar to No. 1. 3. Will be built before high water. 4. Will be completed as soon as possible."

Manufacture of Timber. The House again went into committee on the bill respecting the manufacture of timber in the province. In considering J. H. Hawthorthwaite's amendment that timber cut by bona fide hand loggers should be open to export from the province, Mr. Macdonald moved an amendment to section 2. He moved that the prohibition of the export of timber should apply to grade A. He also moved to add the following sub-section:

"(a) The Lieut.-Governor in council is hereby authorized to make rules and regulations for defining what shall be deemed to be grade A timber under this section, and the appointment of and fixing of the qualifications, powers and duties of government scalers, which said scalers shall truly scale all timber cut in the province in accordance with the regulations.

"(b) No timber shall be removed from the province or the waters adjacent thereto unmanufactured as provided in section 1, or shall be taken from the province until it has been scaled by one of such government scalers and certified by him to be not grade A timber as defined by this act and said regulations.

"(c) Notwithstanding anything contained in this act, the holder of a hand logger's license, upon satisfying the government scaler, who shall scale his logs, that he same have been cut by him, the said hand logger, on his own account, are not for some other person or persons, shall be exempt from the provisions of said section two requiring grade A timber to be used and manufactured with the regulations.

Hon. R. F. Green said that the section stationer in order that the amendment might be printed. Mr. Hawthorthwaite also wanted to see it printed. It appeared, he said to cover the objects aimed at by his amendment.

port to any other province of Canada, or to any other British or foreign country, of pile and crib timber, railway ties, mining props, telegraph or telephone poles, fence posts or other fence timber, cord wood or other fire wood, subject to such regulations as to inspection as the Lieut.-Governor in council may prescribe."

The chief commissioner wished the section left over, which was accordingly done. The committee rose and reported progress. Dyking Act Amendment. On the second reading of the bill to amend the Dyking Assessments and Adjustment Act, 1905, the chief commissioner said that all that was intended was to make possible the carrying out of the act passed last year.

He had an amendment to introduce later on by which the person whose land had been sold under the act might be recovered through application to the dyking inspector instead of having to apply for a new crown grant to the department as at present.

C. Munro said that there were outstanding a number of claims by owners against the government for right of way. He wanted to know if there was anything being done to settle these claims. He was asked if it was a hardship for a person to have to pay the assessments with these accounts outstanding.

The chief commissioner said the inspector of dykes was at present looking into the claims. Something would have to be done. Mr. Munro wanted to know if a settlement would be reached this session. Hon. Mr. Green did not think so. Mr. Munro urged that it was important that this should be attended to at once.

The bill passed its second reading. Second Reading. On the bill respecting distress, the attorney-general explained that the object of the bill was to exempt from damages an officer who entered upon property to levy distress. At the present time the law applied in the case of levying on realty. If it was afterwards found that the entry upon the property was not proper. The bill passed its second reading. The House then adjourned.

On Fridays next—Hon. Mr. Green to ask leave to introduce a bill intitled "An Act to ratify an Agreement which has been arrived at between the Dominion and Provincial governments, respecting the Western boundary of the railway belt."

By Mr. Oliver—On Monday next—"That an order of the House be granted for a return of the number and names and residence of all game wardens and deputy game wardens appointed by the government, and the remuneration each receives from the government."

Questions. J. N. Evans, on Friday next, will ask the premier:

1. Is it the intention of the government to reappoint Mr. C. I. South as superintendent under the Children's Protection Act?

2. Do the government propose to make provision in the estimates for the payment of salary for the continuation of said office of superintendent, or any other form of remuneration, so that work should continue?

Mr. Evans, on Friday next, will ask the premier:

1. The length and nature of service of the several gentlemen whose names appear on the superannuation list rendered the province to entitle them to superannuation?

2. The nature of service each performed for the province?

3. The rate of monthly pay each received for said service?

4. The reason of each superannuation? Upon what grounds do the government base rate of superannuation? Victoria, Feb. 1st, 1906.

The legislature to-day listened to the address of J. H. Hawthorthwaite on the second reading of the bill to grant the franchise to women. In his speech the Socialist member took occasion to deal with his religious views combating the theory of eternal punishment. Members of the House failed to see the connection between this subject and the bill introduced. The Speaker also called in question the relevancy of it and took exception to its being perpetrated upon the legislature. There were many ladies in the gallery in anticipation of the bill coming up. These were given a lay sermon by the Socialist leader on the economic subjects, eternal punishment, etc.

The remainder of the afternoon was devoted to what might be regarded as routine business. Prayers were read by Rev. G. K. B. Adams. Annual Report. The provincial secretary presented the first annual report of the provincial game and forest warden.

The following petitions were received: From W. J. Beam, Pacific Box Company, and Frank N. Trites, owners of lots abutting on the waters of False creek Vancouver, opposing private bill of Vancouver city to amend the "False Creek Foreshore Act, 1904."

From the Cascade Water, Power and Light Company, Limited, opposing the private bill intitled "An Act to amend the West Kootenay Power and Light Company, Limited, Act, 1897."

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the effect that the following were ordered printed: 1. Return of minutes of council and agreement relative to a grant of land made to the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company for terminal purposes. Presented January 11th, 1906.

2. Return of copies of all Orders in Council, agreements, grants, letters, telegrams or other papers in possession of the government relative to the acquisition by the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company of lands at Kaitai Island, or elsewhere in British Columbia, for right of way for terminal or townsite purposes, or by way of subsidy. Presented January 18th, 1906. The report was received.

A. H. E. Macgowan presented the first report from the select committee, to the effect that the preamble had been proved of the bill intitled "An Act to amend the 'Midway and Vernon Railway Company Act, 91,'" and submitted the same with amendments. The report was received.

New Bills. Hon. R. F. Fulton introduced two bills, which were read a first time. They were intitled an Act to incorporate the Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning, of B. C., and an Act respecting McGill University. Women's Franchise. On the second reading of the bill to extend the franchise to women, J. H. Hawthorthwaite said that he had on many occasions risen in the House in defence of the oppressed in the province. In introducing this bill he spoke for the most oppressed of all, "our wives, our mothers, and our sisters."

The time had passed when this could be treated as a jest. He congratulated the Liberal party upon its attitude towards this bill. Wherever brought up in the House the franchise had given careful attention. In all instances as reported. He congratulated Richard Reid for his manly stand in support of woman suffrage.

He regretted to see the action taken by the Conservative side of the House. They had in the past nearly to a man lined up against the bill. He admonished them to let the past go and support this bill. One of the greatest leaders of the Conservative party in Canada did not hold the opinion which the party in this House showed towards this question. The name of Sir John A. Macdonald, who had done so much to weld the different parts of the Dominion into one cohesive nation, came into his mind. He, in 1883, introduced a bill to give the franchise to one class of women. It did not go as far as this measure. The Conservative members in this House, speaking in opposition, were unworthy sons of a worthy father.

The leader of the government should have introduced this bill. This bill did not mean the complete emancipation of women. The passage of it did not free women from all their troubles. Economic independence was necessary before there would be complete freedom. There was not religious or political freedom until there was economic freedom. If there were political freedom there would be no need of the secret ballot. The secret ballot was the coward's ballot. Under the boasted British freedom there was not political independence.

He referred to the school investigation recently, where much light was kept back from the commissioner because teachers did not dare to come forward and give their honest views on the subject. But these teachers did not dare to do this because they would lose the powers that be in so doing. Those interested in the liquor traffic feared that if this act became law it would mean ruin to their trade. But in New Zealand and Australia, where the women franchise was in effect, this result did not follow.

The mothers, wives and sisters should share with the men the responsibilities of what was going on. They should share with the men the solution of the difficulties to be met with. The boasted civilization and boasted religion had not advanced much from times past. In the savage days the women were the backbone of the family. The man was in physical strength and mental capacity. The woman did the drudgery.

In the boasted chivalry days of medieval times the noblemen were scaled by robbers, murderers and thieves. That condition of women was worse in that time than in savage days. Coming to modern times, Mr. Hawthorthwaite said that there was an argument put forth that the halls of the women were not clean enough for women. The factories and the workshops were clean enough for women, the capitalist found. The halls of legislation were not clean enough for her. The houses of prostitution were clean enough. Woman was being crowded into industrial life.

In Britain in 1880 there were 17,000 women employed in the industries. In the United States in 1880 there were 24,000,000 women employed in industrial life, while in 1901 there were 37,000,000. Capitalists were fast finding that women were cheaper as laborers and less able to organize more than \$7 a year. A woman was expected to keep herself and live respectably on such pay. Women had to support a sick husband and a family on 15 cents a day.

He referred to the way in which women were being driven to the simple path of the lowly Nazarene in recent centuries. Women were, he believed, attracted to that faith and the beauty of an ideal hereafter by the miseries they had to endure in this life.

In this connection he wished to make him clear on the subject of religion. In Vancouver he had endeavored to remove some of the grossest superstitions. He had attacked the theory of eternal punishment as a pack of lies. He held that it was a superstition which he refused to believe that an all-beneficent Being would condemn a body which he had created to eternal punishment.

Proceeding to demonstrate the standing of the Socialist party on the question of religion, the Speaker called the member to order. He said the religious views which the member held had nothing whatever to do with the question of the enfranchisement of women.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite took a different view and held that no subject should be above discussion in the House. The Speaker said it was not a question of a subject not being eligible to discussion. The question was that the member's religious opinion had nothing to do with the question before the House.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite held that the Socialist party upheld the theory of economic determinism. This theory held that the mode of production of any people or any age determined the economics, and the religion of that people. In holding this opinion the Socialist party had been misrepresented. Knowledge was at present hidden from the great majority of the people. This privilege was confined to the noble and the rich. The theory of evolution had an important bearing on the theory of economic determinism. In the colleges to-day. This theory taught that man had developed from the single cell protoplasm. He believed the theory himself. If the naturalist was correct, then all life closed with this life. If this was so, what was the future of woman. After all she had suffered on this earth her future closed with death.

Wrong had been done the women, and he asked members of the House to put aside all party ties and weigh this question on its merits. The legislators should decide whether woman has the right to vote. Nothing but good would result from giving women the vote. The attitude towards women in the past was a blot upon our civilization and our manhood. Parker Williams said he was proud to vote on this question. It had always been a mystery to him why the franchise was not given to women. He said that in opposing the franchise to women in the Imperial House it had been urged that women did not understand politics. This argument would deprive man of the franchise also, as they did not understand politics.

The women had thrown influences about the families along a certain line only to find that they were powerless to prevent the other influences being set to work which would undo in one year the work of sixteen years previous. He thought that the simplicity complained of as likely to be introduced into politics by the enfranchisement of women might well have a place without loss to the community. The debate was adjourned on motion of R. J. Brown.

On the adjourned debate on the second reading of the bill to amend the Provincial Elections Act, W. J. Bowser said that he must be commenced by the second reading of the bill on the understanding that in committee he would seek to have the deposit to be made by candidates raised from \$50, as proposed, to \$100. He was opposed to the deposit, but he thought it should be high enough to prevent an election being forced upon the country by one who had small chance of success.

Hon. R. G. Taitlow thought there was no reason why the deposit should be altered from \$200. Any man who could not deposit \$200 or who had no friends who had confidence enough in him to provide the \$200 should not enter the contest.

W. Davidson saw no reason why there should be any deposit at all. The minister of finance seemed to think that the representation in the House should be confined to a few. On motion of C. Munro the debate was adjourned.

Mineral Act. (FORM F) CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS. NOTICE. Edison Mineral Claim, situate in the Quatsino Mining Division of Rupert District. Where located: West side of Southeast Arm of Quatsino Sound, B. C. Take notice that J. D. Murphy, Free Miner's Certificate No. 138550, and B. J. Murphy, Free Miner's Certificate No. 133251, intend, sixty days from 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 6th day of January, A. D. 1906.

By E. H. FLETCHER, Post Office Inspector. Post Office Inspector's Office, Victoria, B. C., 19th January, 1906.

Notice is hereby given that, sixty days after date, we intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to purchase the following described land: Commencing at the southeast corner post on Dease Lake, Cassiar, near Porter's Landing, of Lot 206, thence north 40 chains, thence east 40 chains, thence south to the lake shore, thence following the lake shore to the point of commencement, and containing 19 acres, more or less. Dated at Victoria, B. C., 11th Dec. 1905. THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF ADVENTURERS OF ENGLAND TRADING INTO HUDSON'S BAY.

Notice is hereby given that, sixty days after date, I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works permission to purchase the following described land, situated in Kitsumkalum Valley, on the north side of Skeena River, and east of Kitsumkalum River, and beginning at post marked A. H. Price, thence running 40 chains north, thence running 40 chains east, thence running 40 chains south, thence running 40 chains west to the point of commencement, containing 160 acres, more or less. ROBERT DONALDSON, Aberdeen, B. C.

THE Tye Copper Co., Ltd. Purchasers and Smelters of Copper, Gold and Silver Ores. Smelting Works at LADYSMITH, VANCOUVER ISLAND, B. C. Head Office—Duncan's Station, Vancouver Island, B. C. Clermont Livingstone, General Manager.

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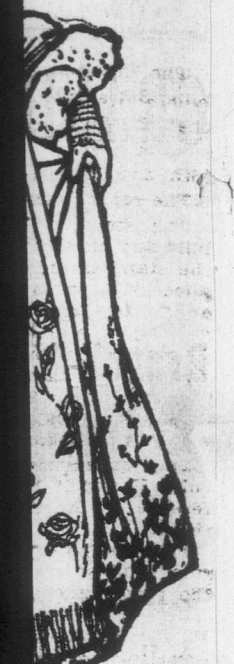
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By message from His Honor a bill was introduced to ratify the agreement arrived at between the Dominion and Provincial governments respecting the western boundary of the railway belt. The bill passed its first reading. The adjourned debate on the motion of J. R. Brown was resumed. The motion was: "That a select committee of this House, consisting of Messrs. Ross, Taylor, Young, Henderson and Patterson, be appointed to inquire into all matters relating to an application by Mr. John Elliott, as counsel, for a flat for a petition of right to try certain questions relating to the mineral claim 'Pack Train,' with power to call for persons, papers and documents and to take evidence under oath, and to report the evidence and their findings to this House."

Sealed tenders, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa, until noon, on Friday, the 2nd March next, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails, on a proposed contract for four years, six times per week each way, between COLUQUITT AND VICTORIA, from the 1st April next. Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed contract may be seen and blank forms of tender may be obtained at the Post Office of Colquitt and Victoria, and at this office. E. H. FLETCHER, Post Office Inspector.

Notice is hereby given that, sixty days after date, we intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to purchase the following described land, situated in Kitsumkalum Valley, on the north side of Skeena River, and east of Kitsumkalum River, and beginning at post marked A. H. Price, thence running 40 chains north, thence running 40 chains east, thence running 40 chains south, thence running 40 chains west to the point of commencement, containing 160 acres, more or less. ROBERT DONALDSON, Aberdeen, B. C.



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