1878 until the year 1897 there were thus three distinct general acts dealing with the incorporation of companies and regulating companies formed thereunder. In the year 1897 an act was passed, and the preamble to this act states concisely the purpose of the Legislature in passing it:

> WHEREAS there are now several systems under which Joint Stock Companies and Trading Corporations may be incorporated and formed and it is expedient to amend and consolidate the law in this respect and to enact an exclusive and comprehensive law governing the formation of Joint Stock Companies and Trading Corporations.

This act repealed all general statutes then existing relating to companies, but provided that such repeal should not be held or taken to in any way alter, limit or affect the corporate existence, rights, privileges, powers and liabilities of any company incorporated under the said Repeal Acts or any or either of them.

This act remained the general act dealing with the incorporation of companies in this Province until the 1st day of July, 1910, when the Companies Act, 1910, came into force and repealed the Companies Act, 1897. The Companies Act, 1910, was introduced into the Legislature following the passing by the Imperial Parliament of the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908, referred to above. The British Columbia Act follows very closely the provisions of the British Act of 1908, with the addition of certain special sections applicable to Mining Companies and Extra Provincial Companies.

The whole of the statute law in this Province was consolidated in the year 1911 and the Companies Act, 1910, was accordingly repealed and replaced by the Companies Act, R.S.B.C., 1911, Chap. 39. The differences between