

SCHOOL BOARD.

Request of High School Teachers to Affiliates With a University Endorsed.

The North Ward Boiler Rejected—Trustee Glover Takes His Seat.

The first thing done in the School Board meeting last evening was the reading of the result of Mr. Glover's election as trustee, and that gentleman then took his seat. Mr. Chas. Hayward presided, and the other trustees present were Messrs. Lovell, Marchant and Yates.

The petition from the Oakland estate people for a school, referred to the board by the City Council, was, on motion, ordered sent back to the City Council, with the answer that owing to the cutting down of the school estimates by the council the board could do nothing.

The Y. W. C. A. wanted a vacant room in the central for a lunch room, for supplying the children with hot lunch at cost. Granted.

Mr. Ridgway Wilson wrote suggesting that the rooms of the James Bay school should be taken down. This could be done for \$160, and would give better light. Referred to trustees Glover and Lovell to act.

A motion by Mr. Yates that the same committee see whether the time has not come to discontinue the superintendent of works, with power to act, was also agreed to.

D. Ross, late teacher in the Central branch school, wrote protesting against the dismissal, because of failing to give satisfaction, without a chance to defend himself. It was resolved to give him the desired opportunity.

On behalf of a deputation of the High school teachers, Principal Paul read the following:

HIGH SCHOOL, VICTORIA,
March 16, 1894.

GENTLEMEN:—We have heard with much interest that a deputation from Vancouver waited on the 10th inst., on the hon. the Premier and the hon. the Minister of Education, having as its object the incorporation of the affiliation with some Eastern university. Such a scheme could not fail to be productive of much good to the Province generally and to such an opportunity to advance the education of the young men in this city and through the province who would eagerly embrace such an opportunity. These young men would gladly return to Vancouver to finish their education when the end in view was a degree in Arts, Science, or Law, and would, other things being equal, prefer to live in their own homes, where they could have the supervision of their parents, and where they would be able to secure the best of instruction for their children. The establishment of such a university in Victoria would be a great benefit to the Province, and we would be glad to see it established.

We are sure that you, gentlemen, representing the representatives of this city, will agree with us in thinking that Victoria ought not to allow herself to be surpassed in educational matters by Vancouver. We have already possessed the premier High school, and we have also the Victoria University, which is a great advantage. We have also the Victoria University, which is a great advantage. We have also the Victoria University, which is a great advantage.

We understand that it was asserted by the Vancouver delegation that Vancouver was in a better position to undertake university work than Victoria, for the reason that they had more efficient and better paid staff of teachers than we have. It may be true, but we cannot see how that affects the question, unless we are to suppose that the staff of teachers in Victoria is inferior to that in Vancouver. As to the remuneration, we must recognize that the possession of five teachers with Victoria's actual attendance, as compared with Victoria's four teachers for 130 pupils in actual attendance gives Vancouver an advantage. But the superiority of their teachers requires the statement to be made that if any such statement can only be maintained if one of the Department of Education, and we have been assured by the Superintendent that neither he nor his staff have ever had any comparison between the two schools of the principal of one High school and the principal of the other. We have no data for the Vancouver staff. They claim to be "superior," and so do not deny it. But all that is meant by the phrase is that each of the teachers in one particular school is better paid than each of the teachers in the other. It is not the same for all. In Victoria, for example, the principal of the High school, and the principal of the Victoria University, are both paid \$1,000 per annum. In Vancouver, the principal of the High school is paid \$1,000 per annum, and the principal of the Victoria University is paid \$1,000 per annum.

Should the Victoria University be affiliated with an Eastern university, and the affiliated with different universities that pupils might have a choice? We have to be sure that even with our present staff we are quite prepared to undertake the duties that would be then imposed upon us. A scheme has been drawn up by the principal (the details of which will be submitted to you at a future meeting). We may state, however, that all the examinations for matriculation, etc., would be conducted by the affiliated university. The composition, number, or payment of the High school staff would, consequently, be of no interest to the University. It would be of interest to the University, but it would be of no interest to the High school. The composition, number, or payment of the High school staff would, consequently, be of no interest to the University. It would be of interest to the University, but it would be of no interest to the High school.

In conclusion we respectfully beg you to be good as to see that Vancouver High school cannot also be granted to Victoria, to take into consideration the benefits that would accrue to the city and to the Province should a measure of university teaching be introduced into our city to do so, to request from the Legislature, by deputation, to the Minister of Education, incorporation with some University, it may extend its sphere of usefulness, and maintain the position it has hitherto held among the High schools of the Province.

EDWARD B. PAUL, M.A.,
AGNES DEANS (CAMERON),
ARTHUR R. MONROE,
A. FINCH, B.A.

Trustee Marchant moved, seconded by Trustee Glover, that the board heartily endorse the suggestion made by the deputation with reference to affiliation of the high schools of the province with some one of the eastern universities, and that the government be requested to bring forward such legislation as may be necessary for that purpose. Carried.

It was decided to pay \$45 a month to janitors of the North and South ward schools.

The "substituted boiler" committee presented a majority report recommending that the architect's advice be followed and the boiler rejected. After much discussion the motion prevailed and the contractor will be so notified.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Fourth Session of the Sixth Parliament.

THIRTY-NINTH DAY.

MONDAY, March 19, 1894.

The Speaker took the chair at 11 o'clock. Mr. MARTIN moved for returns containing the report of Messrs. Keeler & Smith, C.E.s, regarding the proposed bridge at Kamloops; and the reports of the government inspector of coal measures in the Nicola country.

Motions agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY BILL.

On consideration of the report from committee on the bill respecting the legislative library and bureau of statistics, Hon. Mr. Beaven moved to strike out the clause making it obligatory on municipalities and school boards and all public institutions to send in returns when requested.

Motion lost on division.

PEACOCK MINING ACT.

HON. COL. BAKER moved the adoption of the report from committee on the bill to amend the peacock mining act, 1891.

Motion agreed to.

CARIBOO RAILWAY.

DR. WATT moved the third reading of the Cariboo railway bill.

Bill read a third time and passed.

BRUNETTE SAWMILL.

MR. HOBBS moved the third reading of the bill respecting the Brunette sawmill company.

Bill read a third time and passed.

CHILLWACK DRAINAGE.

MR. KITCHEN moved the adoption of the report from committee of the whole on the Chillwack drainage bill.

Motion agreed to.

HALL MINES BILL.

The house again went into committee on the Hall mines bill. Mr. Rogers in the chair. Mr. SWORD raised the point that the bill and the petition for it do not agree with the advertisement published in the official gazette.

HON. MR. BEAVEN moved that the committee rise and report to the Speaker to that effect, which was done.

HORSELEY HYDRAULIC MINING CO.

MR. HUNTER, the order for the second reading of the Horseley hydraulic mining company's bill being called, said he thought the Premier had something to say on the subject.

HON. MR. DAVIS said the government could not agree to this bill and the similar one also before the house, in their present shape, and as they would be ungovernable without the assent of the government he advised the promoter to withdraw them. If this is done the government will introduce this session a bill already drawn giving the companies such powers as they ought to have, but not the too extensive franchises asked for.

The bill was, after discussion, allowed to stand over in the meantime.

GAME PROTECTION.

MR. MARTIN moved the second reading of the bill to amend the game protection act. He explained the exception made in the case of Casier in the matter of the export of deerkins, pointing out that as already shown by Mr. Hall it is impossible to prevent persons taking the skins across the boundary into Alaska, and exporting them from there, and the only effect of the law is to prevent exportation by responsible firms while irresponsible persons carry on a large trade.

Bill read a second time, on division, after discussion.

LINE FENCES AND WATER COURSES.

MR. KITCHEN moved the second reading of the bill respecting line fences and water courses, the object of which he said is simply to extend the provisions of the law in fences so that they shall apply to water courses.

Bill read a second time.

ROBBERY ACT.

MR. KITCHEN moved the second reading of a bill to amend the robbery act, and providing that the personal property of the possession of five teachers with Victoria's actual attendance, as compared with Victoria's four teachers for 130 pupils in actual attendance gives Vancouver an advantage. But the superiority of their teachers requires the statement to be made that if any such statement can only be maintained if one of the Department of Education, and we have been assured by the Superintendent that neither he nor his staff have ever had any comparison between the two schools of the principal of one High school and the principal of the other.

HON. MR. DAVIS said he did not like the way in which the bill is drawn, but being in favor of the principle he would not oppose the second reading.

Bill read a second time.

At 1 o'clock the house rose until 2:30 p.m.

Afternoon Session.

THE SPEAKER said, with reference to the Hall mines bill, he had examined the notice given, which he found very short, and he considered that the bill did ask for greater powers than that mentioned. He suggested that it be referred back to the private bill committee for some amendment as would make it in order.

This bill, and also the bill respecting the Consolidated electric railway and light company, found days ago to be similarly irregular, were thereupon referred back to the private bill committee.

FIRE COMPANIES' AID.

MR. CROFT moved the second reading of the bill to amend the fire companies' aid act, so as to provide that there shall be payable to the municipal corporation the annual sum of not exceeding \$100 by each fire company, found days ago to be similarly irregular, were thereupon referred back to the private bill committee.

HON. MR. BEAVEN moved the point that the act proposed to be amended had been passed as a private bill, and had been amended as a private bill, and could not now be amended in this way.

THE SPEAKER said the point was well taken, it not being in order for a private member to amend a private act without following the procedure laid down for private bills.

FRASER RIVER BRIDGE.

HON. MR. DAVIS presented a message from His Honor the Lieutenant Governor transmitting a bill to aid the construction of a railway and highway traffic bridge across the Fraser river at New Westminster.

Ordered, that the message be taken into consideration to-morrow.

HON. MR. BEAVEN proceeded to argue the point of order already several times taken in similar instances, that such bills should originate by resolution in committee of the whole.

THE SPEAKER, Mr. Croft in the chair, it was stated by Hon. Mr. Davis to be the intention of the Finance Minister, at the proper time, to move several reductions in the duties proposed to be charged.

Bill reported and read a first time.

LAND ACT.

HON. MR. VERNON asked leave to introduce a bill to amend the land act.

Bill read a first time.

N. C. RAILWAY ACT.

The report from committee on the bill to

amend the N. C. railway act was further considered, and adopted with amendments by Mr. Hunter.

REDISTRIBUTION BILL.

The report from committee on the redistribution bill was further considered, several verbal amendments being made of the bill. Hon. Mr. DAVIS moved that section 6 of the election regulation act 1889 be repealed and the following substituted therefor:

"6. At the final count the returning officer shall examine ballots rejected by the several presiding officers and shall scrutinize the marked copies of the register of voters received from the several presiding officers for the purpose of ascertaining whether any person has voted more than once, and the decision of the returning officer as to the final count shall be final, subject to reversal on petition questioning the election on return."

Motion agreed to.

An amendment by Mr. Brown providing that no liquor shall be sold on polling day in any electoral district, also was agreed to.

The report as amended was adopted, the bill being sent for third reading to-morrow.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES.

HON. MR. TURNER presented a message from His Honor the Lieutenant Governor transmitting further supplementary estimates for the year ending June 30, 1894, and supplementary estimates for the year ending June 30, 1895.

Referred to committee of supply for to-morrow.

EASTERN VACATION.

HON. MR. DAVIS said it appeared from the state of the order paper that it would be impossible to complete the business of the session before Good Friday, and he therefore asked what was the desire of the house with respect to adjournment over the holidays.

MR. KITCHEN suggested adjournment on Wednesday to to-morrow.

MR. SMITH thought that in the interest of those who cannot go home the adjournment should be from Thursday to Tuesday.

MR. BROWN said probably time would be saved in the end by giving the government the opportunity to look through all the bills, for it was evident that they had not had the necessary time to do so.

HON. MR. DAVIS said he thought Mr. Kitchin's suggestion the best.

COUNTY COURTS ACT.

The report from committee on the county courts act amendment bill further considered, and an amendment was agreed to.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

On consideration of the report on the bill respecting the department of agriculture, Hon. Mr. Beaven moved to strike out section 9, which provides that any person must promptly answer any questions put to him by the department respecting his agricultural pursuits.

MR. TURNER spoke in support of the section, which he thought a necessary one, which could do no harm as none but proper questions would be asked.

Amendment lost on division.

REPORT ADOPTED AND BILL READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

B. C. SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

HON. MR. DAVIS moved the second reading of the bill relating to the B. C. Southern railway, adapting the provisions of the land act to the provisions of the amending act respecting the railway passed this session.

Motion agreed to.

NELSON & FORT SHEPPARD RAILWAY.

HON. MR. DAVIS moved the second reading of the bill respecting the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway, the object of which he said is to provide additional time for the completion of the spur to run back into Nelson.

Bill read a second time.

COMPANIES ACT.

HON. MR. DAVIS moved the second reading of the companies act amendment bill. The object of this is to carry out the intention of the act of 1890, which is found to be ambiguous, and to provide that the borrowing powers may be exercised with the consent of two-thirds in value of the stock issued and not of the whole stock authorized.

MR. GRANT, as a matter of privilege, expressed regret that in the supplementary estimates just submitted provision had been made for further explorations in the northern part of Casier, with a view to giving better facilities for getting goods into the country.

HON. MR. DAVIS said the member representing that district had been giving attention to the matter, and seemed to think the sum is the estimates sufficient for the year.

The house adjourned at 5:30 p.m., until 2 p.m. the following day.

FORTIETH DAY.

TUESDAY, March 20, 1894.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 p.m. Byers by Rev. Dr. Campbell.

HON. MR. TURNER presented a petition from the board of school trustees of Victoria asking that such steps as may be possible may be taken to cause the removal of the powder magazine from the park, it being a source of danger to the children attending the new school.

The house went into committee of the whole on the bill granting aid to the Fraser river bridge, read a first time.

HON. MR. VERNON presented returns containing the report of Messrs. Keeler & Smith, C.E.s, regarding the proposed bridge at Kamloops; and also the reports of the government inspector of coal measures in the Nicola country.

The bill respecting the legislative library and bureau of statistics was read a third time and passed.

SUCCESSION DUTIES.

HON. MR. DAVIS moved the second reading of the bill providing for the payment of succession duties in certain cases. Without the bill being taken into the details of the bill, he pointed out that the amount of duty imposed by the act is very limited indeed, and that the estate in question is not so large as to be of great value. He said that the bill created a just and equitable tax. A similar law had been put into force in nearly every colony of Great Britain and in other provinces in adjoining states, so that when those who oppose it say that the bill will be to drive people out of the province they speak without knowledge of the circumstances. As intimated yesterday, it is the intention to make a reduction in the scale of duties mentioned in the bill, and to increase considerably the amount up to which legacies will be exempt. It might be stated that the scale appearing in the bill is identical with that in the Manitoba bill of last year, and that being the nearest to the value it is natural to suppose that what is acceptable there will be fairly applicable to British Columbia. In Ontario, where such an act was passed in 1892, the scale is somewhat lower. Comparing it with some other provinces and colonies the scale now proposed is found to

be very moderate. In Queensland, for instance, there is a duty on all bequests over \$100 of 2 per cent up to \$1,000, of 3 per cent up to \$10,000, and so on, the duty on amounts of \$20,000 and upwards being 5 per cent. In South Australia, estates passing to any persons from their father or mother are taxed 1 per cent, from a brother or sister 3 per cent, from a brother or sister of their father or mother 5 per cent, from the father or mother of their father or mother 6 per cent, and from all other sources 10 per cent. In New Zealand bequests under \$100 to \$1,000 are taxed 2 1/2 per cent, up to \$5,000 3 1/2 per cent, up to \$20,000 7 per cent, and over that amount 10 per cent. It will be noticed that the bill before the house exempts bequests for charitable, scientific or educational purposes, a provision which he felt assured would meet with general approval. Though as said before the rate imposed in Manitoba was not considered excessive, it is proposed to make certain reductions to make the bill more conformable to the state of society in this province. He thought it perfectly certain that some such measure as this is called for, and must be introduced sooner or later. The province is growing rapidly in population, and people are inheriting wealth made in the province which would without injustice pay the tax proposed. He felt that the measure is one of fairness to the people at large and not too burdensome on any individual.

HON. MR. BEAVEN objected to taking the bill into consideration until the details of the changes spoken of are taken to the house. He objected to the bill on the ground, calculated to take from persons the means of support when possibly they had just lost their breadwinner and could least afford such a contribution.

HON. MR. TURNER said the hon. gentleman who had just spoken had evidently failed to notice some of the provisions of the bill, as it is proposed that property bequeathed to a father, mother, husband, wife, child, grand-child, daughter-in-law or son-in-law of the deceased, shall go free up to the aggregate value of \$25,000 or rather up to \$50,000, to which it is intended to change as amount mentioned; or if the property bequeathed to several persons, then the value bequeathed to any one person is exempt up to \$25,000—this being raised from the \$10,000 appearing in the bill as introduced. With respect to the general rate stated in the bill, that possibly is too high, since this measure is so largely experimental, so he proposed that it shall be made 1 per cent up to \$100,000, 2 per cent up to \$200,000, and the highest not to be more than 5 per cent. No only have the British colonies set a precedent in the matter of a duty of this nature, but the States are steadily falling into line with it, and he noticed only this week an increase in the estate duty in New York. The rates in Australia are very much higher than those proposed in this bill, and the exemptions there are very much smaller.

MR. SEMLIN thought the imposition of an income tax would be more just than a bill of this kind. He objected to the preamble, which gives as a reason for the bill the expense of providing a fund for defraying part of the expenditure for hospitals and other charities—because the duties are not to form a special fund, but are to form part of the general revenue.

HON. COL. BAKER said he considered this a tax upon wealth for the benefit of the people, and in adopting this principle the government are simply following the lead of Great Britain and the colonies.

MR. SWORD spoke in objection to the preamble.

MR. BROWN thought that if the exemption stated in the law the Finance Minister will not collect enough in a year to pay for the passage of the bill. He took exception to the exemption of bequests to religious and charitable institutions, which he considered wrong in principle.

Addressed in favor of the principle of the bill were Messrs. Grant and Booth, who, however, expressed the hope that some changes would be made in committee.

MR. HUNTER spoke against the preamble, which in connection with the sub-section dealing with bequests for religious and charitable institutions he considered simply proposed double taxation.

The bill was read a second time.

BILLS PASSED.

The Supreme court bill and the redistribution bill were read a third time and passed.

MUNICIPAL ACT.

The house again went into committee on the bill to amend the municipal act, Mr. Booth in the chair.

MR. GRANT moved an amendment, put into his hands by the council of Victoria, regarding local improvement assessments. The amendment was lost on division of 7 to 7, the chairman giving his vote in the negative.

An amendment similarly introduced giving municipalities authority to remove buildings which have become dangerous or are a nuisance, under certain conditions, was agreed to.

Another amendment to authorize the appointment of commissioners to manage the sinking funds and to invest the same in real estate, was opposed as a dangerous provision and laid over so that it may be printed for consideration.

The Sunday closing clause was, at the instance of Hon. Mr. DAVIS, amended by the insertion of words exempting hotels and restaurants, the carrying and selling of milk, and the printing and publishing of newspapers, and now reads thus:

"30. It shall not be lawful in any municipality for any merchant, tradesman, artificer, mechanic, workman, laborer, or other person whatsoever, on the Lord's day, commonly called Sunday, to sell, or to purchase, or to expose, or offer for sale, or to purchase, any goods, chattels, or other personal property, or any real estate whatsoever, or to do or exercise any worldly labor, business or work of his ordinary calling (conveying travellers or Her Majesty's mail, by land or by water, the operation of railways and street railways, hotels and restaurants, the carrying and selling of milk, the printing and publishing of newspapers, and other works of necessity and works of charity, only excepted)."

HON. MR. DAVIS said he understood the leader of the opposition had an amendment to move, to contain fish stalls to the public market.

HON. MR. BEAVEN: I going to introduce it (Laughter.)

MR. GRANT said this amendment had been placed in his hands, and he would put it to the house and bring it in according to request, as a last stage.

This and other proposed amendments were left over to be brought in on consideration of the report, and the committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments.

RETURN PRESENTED.

HON. MR. DAVIS presented a return containing the correspondence asked for respecting the request for the appointment of a Supreme court judge for Vancouver.

BILLS ADVANCED.

The B. C. Southern railway bill was con-

sidered in committee and reported complete with amendments.

The bill respecting the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway was read a third time and passed.

The companies act amendment bill was considered in committee and reported complete without amendments.

The bill respecting the union of the Methodist churches was read a second time.

THE LAW IN THE NORTH.

MR. BROWN asked: 1. Has the attention of the government been called to the need which exists for better protection to life and property on the northwest coast of the Mainland and Islands adjacent thereto? 2. What steps, if any, have been taken to afford the protection needed? 3. Have any steps been taken to limit the issue of liquor licenses in that part of the province?

MR. DAVIS replied as follows: (1) The officers of the government have kept the government informed of the necessities of the case from time to time, and all reasonable steps have been taken consistent with the excellent nature of the settlements and the geographical peculiarities of the district to render life and property secure, and the success of such steps is sufficiently evidenced by a comparison of the district mentioned with similarly situated districts in other countries and provinces.

(2) The government has taken steps in charge of three constables, has been engaged in patrol work in the vicinity of Valdez, Cortes and Camp islands for some time since.

(3) The only liquor license held on the northwest coast north of Comox is at Lund and such license was issued by a licensing court in New Westminster district without the government being consulted in the matter. All applications made to the Superintendent of Provincial Police within the last four years have, under instructions from the Government, been refused by that officer, and several applications recently received have been similarly treated. Mr. Messrs. Ireland, storekeeper at Camp Island, has recently been fined \$24 for selling liquor without a license, and all similar cases coming under the attention of the police are prosecuted without regard to expense. In November last the steamer "Lar", with a cargo of whiskey in charge of three men, was seized by the police near Bute Inlet. Each of the men was tried and convicted of three separate offences, viz., supplying liquor to Indians, and the steamer "Lar", valued at \$3,000, was confiscated and sold by public auction at Nanaimo.

THE LAND ACT.

HON. MR. VERNON moved the second reading of the bill to amend the land act, which he proceeded to explain in length, first taking up the provision for the lease of hay lands to pre-emptors. He stated that at the present time it is often not possible for pre-emptors to obtain on their own lands sufficient hay for the number of cattle they desire to raise, and though there are large meadows near by upon which they have no right to go, and cannot safely engage in stock raising to the extent they otherwise would for fear that source of supply might be cut off. The government propose, therefore, to secure these parties by allowing them to lease the hay lands for a term of five years, and a fair rental being charged, so that the meadows will become a source of revenue to the government, which now gets nothing from them. At the end of the five years the government can choose to whether it appears to be in the interest of the public that the lands shall continue to be used for this purpose, or shall be opened to pre-emption or otherwise disposed of. In some parts of the province there is no necessity for such a provision as this, but in Cariboo, Yale and Lillooet he thought it would be appreciated since the sale of lands had been discontinued. The hay meadows which the government have in mind are mostly up in the mountains, in inaccessible places where the land is not likely to be pre-empted for many years to come. Another provision of the bill relates to leases of quarries and sites for fishing stations, these being proposed to be leased for the longer term of twenty-one years, so that persons would be warranted in going to the expense of putting in the machinery necessary for the operation of the quarries or erecting the buildings necessary for the canneries. The quarries occurring naturally on sections which are simply a mass of rock, it is an impossibility for anyone to comply with the pre-emption law with respect to them, and the mineral law does not apply to these cases either, so that some provision as that now made is a necessity. A move in the direction of encouraging persons of moderate means to take up small holdings in made in the proposition to grant leases of 20 acres in extent, for five years, at such a rental that, if it be paid and the other conditions be complied with, at the termination of the lease the tenant will have paid for his land and become the owner of it. This will enable persons with little or no capital to take up land. The new departure thus made will enable the government to deal more satisfactorily with land which is likely to acquire more value than the ordinary value, which they can thus put to some use in place of allowing it to lie idle, not open to pre-emption, or selling it at auction perhaps to some speculator. He thought it would allow small holders, acquiring land on reasonable terms, to make a fair living by the cultivation of vegetable gardens or otherwise, thus providing homes for a large number of settlers.

After short discussion the bill was read a second time.

The house adjourned at 6:40 p.m., until 2 p.m. the following day.

WORTH A GUINNEA A BOX.

BEECHAM'S PILLS.

(Tasteless-Effective.)