

figures show any injustice as regards the Mainland? And a further consideration of the facts will show still further how justly and fairly this portion of the Province has been dealt with. If you take the Shuswap & Okanagan Railway, it first got a lump sum of \$200,000, which was afterwards changed to a guarantee of interest equal to \$50,000 for 25 years. A similar guarantee was passed last session in aid of the Spence's Bridge & Nicola Valley Railway, and a guarantee of interest on \$300,000 or thereabouts on the Nakusp & Slocan Railway—a line calculated to open up and aid in developing the mining resources of Kootenay. To come nearer home, there was a guarantee passed of 2 per cent. upon the bonds of the Chilliwack Railroad to the extent of \$500,000. [Cheers.] It is true that the guarantees have been so arranged that the public revenue is not likely to be seriously encroached upon; but still the fact remains that the credit of the country has been pledged for these works. As against these railways, what do you find on Vancouver Island? The Victoria & Sidney Railway is the only one, and there the Government takes an obligation of \$6,000 and the city of Victoria of \$9,000. Besides the appropriations and aids to railways, there was aid to quartz mining in Cariboo of \$74,500, and you have a small expenditure for a woolen mill in this place of \$3,000, and \$37,500 towards a bonus for the C. P. R. coming to New Westminster; and you have \$15,000 a year in aid of the bridge across the Fraser, which it would have been difficult, if not impossible, for the city itself to raise. Take a glance over these facts—facts that cannot be challenged—would ask yourselves if the Government of the country is treating you so badly? (A voice: No, no.) Matters do not stop here. In the first place, the revenue from the Mainland is only \$1,249,000. In this I have included the land sales, and the same upon Vancouver Island, and have shown that you have had the revenue raised upon the Mainland expended here in public works, education, surveys and so on—all of it, sir, with the exception of about \$149,000; and the same thing is true of the Island, which has had similarly expended the revenue collected there within \$40,000.

#### Sales of Public Lands.

Now the proceeds of the sale of the land of the Province does not belong to any particular portion of it, and any land sales are entitled to be distributed for the benefit of the people generally. The Mainland had no particular claim to the land revenue being expended here. What did the land sales amount to during those three years? They amounted to \$491,310 upon the Mainland. Take that from \$1,249,000 gross revenue, and what have you got as the net revenue? You have \$757,749.39. That puts the matter in another shape altogether. You have then the revenue considerably less than the expenditure, the expenditure being \$1,106,117, with a revenue of \$757,749, leaving

\$348,367 of a deficit. On Vancouver Island the revenue was \$585,572.01, the land sales being \$140,639.82. Deduct then the land sales and take the revenue from the expenditure and you have an excess of expenditure over revenue of \$119,278.81.

#### Expenditure in Municipalities.

I would like to ask you, sir, whether any of these municipalities, Surrey, Langley, Maple Ridge, Coquitlam and the others, have not received back their contribution of taxes to the general revenue! Take one year's showing, there is a total expenditure in municipalities outside Vancouver and New Westminster of \$62,340.62 for roads and schools. What do you find the revenue is that has been received from these places? According to a return handed me it is the sum of \$16,618.23. I think I have now shown you that this part of the country has been fairly treated by the Government. I have shown you that the fear of injustice in the matter of redistribution has no foundation in fact, and I am sure that every reasonable man will admit that there is no occasion for this agitation petition. I have been informed that this movement is spreading. If it is spreading it is merely among those who are not informed in the matter. I have been told they have formed a Government for the country, and even have appointed the members of their cabinet. They expect, no doubt, to do great things, for themselves, when the new "kingdom" comes. Here is a country that has, say 100,000 of a population. Do you suppose the proposal is going to be listened to for one moment that we should have two separate Provinces. The thing is too ridiculous, and every sensible man must see that those getting up these petitions are simply making fools of themselves, and the people who sign the petitions ridiculous. Now, having shown the determination of the Government to deal fairly in this matter and all other matters before the country, I would draw your attention to the kind of encouragement given by the morning organ at Vancouver when it writes that no matter what the Government may do they are to have no credit for it. In the House of Assembly Mr. Brown and Mr. Cotton claimed to wish to act with the Government in bringing down a fair measure of redistribution. They say, let us have representation according to population. They want to cut off the country districts—pocket boroughs they call them. The two smallest of these country constituencies are Alberni and the Islands. Yet, would you believe that both Mr. Brown and Mr. Cotton in the Legislative Assembly advocated the Islands and Alberni retaining their representatives, and the same with Cariboo. A nice bait to hold out to these people. Their insincerity was shown by their professions. In some things they had been ingenuous foes. I feel I have trespassed unduly on your forbearance. (No, no.) Whatever opposition I might have expected to encounter, I felt