

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

THIRTY-FOURTH DAY.

Thursday, March 19th, 1896. Mr. Speaker took the chair at two o'clock, prayers being read by Rt. Rev. Bishop Oridge.

SUBSIDIZED PHYSICIANS. Mr. Adams asked the hon. the minister of finance whether any money had been paid to Dr. Hugh Watt for medical and surgical attention to a Chinaman who was wounded while resisting arrest near Beaver Lake, district of Cariboo.

Hon. Mr. Turner replied: To the first question: Yes. \$142. When subsidized physicians are called in at the request of the government the government pays them the same as other physicians or surgeons performing similar duties.

The house went into adjourned committee on the Cariboo Trunk Road bill, Mr. McGregor in the chair.

After some discussion as to the onus of proof of an infraction of the act, Mr. Kitchen moved that the bill was only a botched up one.

The motion to rise without reporting the bill was carried.

The Cattle bill was read a third time and passed and the report on the Line Fences and Water Causes bill was adopted.

The Royal Cariboo Hospital bill was committed, Mr. Huff in the chair, and was reported complete without amendment. The Benevolent Societies bill was also committed, Mr. Cotton in the chair, and was reported complete.

Hon. Mr. Turner presented a return showing that the travelling expenses of ministers during the past year were as follows: Mr. Vernon, \$137; Col. Baker, \$463; Mr. Turner, \$237; Mr. Martin, \$40; Mr. Eberts, \$387.75; Mr. Davie, \$2040; total, \$3904.75.

A second return was presented in answer to a motion by Mr. Kidd showing arrears of taxes in December, 1895, as follows: 1. Wild land, \$47,069.47; 2. Personal property, \$50,098.19; and a third return showed the crown grants granted in Kootenay under the Mineral act.

The wages bill was next committed, Mr. Booth in the chair. In answer to an observation by the attorney-general as to the probable far reaching effect of this enactment, and an inquiry as to whether it was meant to apply generally or to a particular estate, Mr. Helmcken, who has charge of the bill, said it was meant to apply to a particular estate, but to obviate the objection that it was to refer generally he would ask that the committee rise and report progress so as to afford an opportunity of amending the matter.

Mr. Williams could not see why such legislation should be introduced; it was retroactive, and therefore not desirable. He would move in amendment that the committee rise without reporting the bill.

Hon. Mr. Pooley supported the motion of Mr. Helmcken to report progress, so as to give him an opportunity to explain. Mr. Williams wanted to know why Mr. Helmcken could not explain now as well as any other time.

Mr. Helmcken's motion carried.

BILLS ADVANCED. Mr. Kitchen moved the second reading of the Municipal Elections act, which, he said, consisted of a consolidation of the act as it is at present.

The second reading was carried without debate.

Mr. Kitchen also moved the second reading of the Municipal Elections act, which, he also explained, was a consolidation and revision of the present law by the commissioner, Hon. Mr. Davie, and a committee of the house.

This bill was also read a second time without debate.

Mr. Macpherson moved the second reading of the Literary Societies bill, which was passed unopposed.

The Wild Horse bill, second reading, was moved by Mr. Adams, who spoke of the evils which it was intended to remedy in aiding in the extermination of a dangerous class of animals.

Mr. Williams said that as there was a same act (laughter) before the house, it would be just as well to insert a clause in it allowing the shooting of these animals at certain seasons.

Mr. Smith said the object of the bill was good, but there was one drawback about it which might have serious results. It is difficult to get close enough to these bands to shoot any of them, and if persons did get near enough it was a question whether they could be certain that the animals were wild.

Hon. Col. Baker said there should be some means of identifying the animals, otherwise it might lead to a great deal of trouble. It would probably be a good idea to have the skins of such animals taken to the government agent, after they were shot, to ensure there being no mistake about it.

Mr. Semlin would vote for the bill, although as it stands its operation would be liable to entail endless litigation and difficulty to the settlers. It is often not possible to tell whether a horse is branded until he is got into the corral, besides which there are hundreds of them running over the ranges unbranded which it would be just sport to many of the Indian boys to shoot. Unless the horses are broken they cannot be approached near enough to be able to see whether they are branded. There should either the government agent or some other recognized authority to deal with the matter.

Mr. Booth and Mr. Stoddard would be quite willing to support the bill if brought within reasonable bounds.

The bill was read a second time.

ASSESSMENT ACT. In resuming the adjourned debate on the Assessment act, Hon. Mr. Turner explained the changes that were proposed to be made in the original measure, principally the reduction from two per cent. on the gross output of mines on the dump to one per cent. on the net returns from the smelter. This, he said, appeared to meet with the approval of mining men generally, and would at the same time produce some revenue from the mining country, on which so much had been spent by the government. Mining men all thought that it was only right and fair that they should be taxed to a reasonable extent. There had been a misapprehension that mining men were to be liable for personal property and real estate tax in addition to this, but when it was explained to them that

this tax covered all, they were satisfied. The only question remaining was how to arrive at the net returns. Mr. Sword, rising to a point of order, asked if Col. Baker had not adjourned the debate.

Hon. Col. Baker said that his colleague had merely explained the changes intended to be made in the bill. It was erroneously thought by some that the proposer was to be taxed under this bill. He would not be taxed unless he took out ore, and supposing he took out one hundred tons of ore, he would have to pay 30 cents a ton, \$30 for one hundred tons; it could be no hardship on him. Col. Baker said that in the cases of Le Roi and Blue Bell mines, 8 cents a ton would be about the limit. As to the coal royalty, it was only mines in operation previous to 1884 that were exempt. Mines opened since then and to be opened would have to pay the 5 cents a ton, and approximately 2 1/2 per cent. so that coal is taxed far more heavily than the ores now proposed to be taxed. The bill would also have the effect of reaching the banks and other large companies not touched at present, and it would principally affect those people with large incomes.

Mr. Semlin objected that the house was asked to discuss measures which were not before the house. These amendments, the finance minister said, he intended to bring in; they were not yet in possession of the members.

Mr. Kitchen also entered an objection,

ed, and on this bill being made public, the bonds had been thrown over. The principal object here is to tax the output of the mines, whether on the gross or the net returns by the imposition of what may be called a royalty, and it was important to see that, instead of increasing the revenue, it was decreasing it. In fact it would be better to withdraw this bill altogether and allow the tax to be on mineral properties the same as other properties. Many of these mines are joint stock properties whose shares are quoted at certain figures in the market, but none of these properties, it would be found, were assessed at anything near the amount that the shares are quoted in the market. The finance minister would also find that there are in the hands of parties properties not yet developed or ore producing, yet of considerable value from their location. On the whole, Mr. Sword thought that the minister of finance would be wise, considering the nature of this bill, and the very material difference which he proposes to make by his amendments, to withdraw this bill and re-introduce it if necessary. The house will be better able to judge, after the estimates are brought down, whether this increased taxation is necessary.

Mr. Williams referred to the reluctance of the government members to support this bill. In any event the amendments spoken of were not before the house and therefore the house could not discuss them. It was placing members

to intelligently discuss this bill till it was known for what purpose the money was required. Mr. Williams had that confidence in the government to know that it was not in the interest of the country to trust them with any more money than could be helped, and it would therefore be in the interests of the country to vote against this bill.

Mr. Kitchen would vote against the bill if for no other reason than that the government had not yet shown the house that they intended going in for retrenchment before proposing to increase the burdens of the people. Had a system of economy been commenced years ago the country would not now be in the peculiar predicament that it is, and although the country had returned the government to power, and seemed to support their policy of extravagance, yet members of the opposition side of the house, in justice to their constituents, must vote against the second reading of this bill.

Mr. Hunter would support the bill, as it could be shown that there was some reason for imposing further taxation, especially in the mining centres. Looking at the expenditure that the government has made in the Kootenay country especially, in opening up the country by roads and other conveniences; it was only reasonable to expect that that section should make some return. The government had given to the Nakusp & Slocan \$647,000 in cash, to the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway in land, 615,

thing to Kootenay to give land to railroads that were proposed to be built in it. Mr. Kellie also claimed that the people of Kootenay were more liberal minded than those of the lower country. They sought their rights, of course, but were not averse to helping any project that was intended to benefit another section and so, incidentally, the whole province. To be consistent, these hon. members from the more thickly populated districts who are always preaching retrenchment, should begin at home. Coming to deal with the bill itself, Mr. Kellie said the government had come down with a tax on mining which he personally did not believe to be a fair tax, but a delegation of mining men had been here and, after interviewing the government, had expressed themselves satisfied with the tax, and he therefore could not oppose it; but he did not think it fair that, if it cost \$15 a ton to mine ores and the profit was \$5 or \$8 a ton, the mines should be taxed one per cent. There was a tendency to discriminate against low grade properties. However, Mr. Kellie thought that after a year's trial the government would be able to bring in a better and more equitable tax than is imposed by this bill.

Mr. Macpherson followed, showing that Vancouver paid in \$284,000 more than had been expended in the district by the government. He also condemned the government for not bringing down the estimates so that the house would be able to deal intelligently with

the bill.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

in a very unsatisfactory position in so far as considering the merits of the bill was concerned. The estimates should have been submitted, too, showing that it is actually necessary to increase the taxes before the power is given by these bills to the government to do so. It had been said by the provincial secretary that, even with this addition, the per capita tax of British Columbia was less than any other province, but then, the per capita expenditure, Mr. Williams showed, was greater than any other province in Canada.

Mr. Williams proceeded to deal with the extravagant proposals of the government, instancing the expenditure for agent-general, when a point of order was raised by Mr. Eberts. A discussion arose on this question, and the Speaker ruled that members must confine themselves to the merits of the bill. It was argued that the bill dealt with an increase in taxation and in speaking against such a course it was perfectly relevant to the subject matter of the bill to point to cases where economy could be practised thus to that extent rendering increased taxation unnecessary.

Mr. Cotton pointed out that in the British house of commons, any change proposed to be made in taxation are left until the budget is introduced, when every member has information before him as to the necessities of the government in seeking the additional revenue.

Mr. Williams said he was simply referring to the arguments made by the provincial secretary, in defence of the office of agent-general, in his speech before the debate was adjourned. Mr. Williams submitted that this proposed taxation was not necessary if the government practised economy. He showed from official figures that the one or two provinces outside of British Columbia which maintain an agent-general in London do so at a vastly smaller expense than this province. With regard to the increased receipts to be derived under this bill, he did not think they would be as large as anticipated by the government. As nearly as he could figure it, the additional amount that would be received from personal property, wild land and income would only amount to some \$45,000. The deficit last year was over a million; deduct the increase and there would be over \$700,000 to be made up from the tax mining to make the revenue balance the expenditure. So that, with this increased taxation, it seems that there is still going to be a large deficit unless the expenditure is materially decreased. It was, however, a very difficult matter

to intelligently discuss this bill till it was known for what purpose the money was required. Mr. Williams had that confidence in the government to know that it was not in the interest of the country to trust them with any more money than could be helped, and it would therefore be in the interests of the country to vote against this bill.

Mr. Kitchen would vote against the bill if for no other reason than that the government had not yet shown the house that they intended going in for retrenchment before proposing to increase the burdens of the people. Had a system of economy been commenced years ago the country would not now be in the peculiar predicament that it is, and although the country had returned the government to power, and seemed to support their policy of extravagance, yet members of the opposition side of the house, in justice to their constituents, must vote against the second reading of this bill.

Mr. Hunter would support the bill, as it could be shown that there was some reason for imposing further taxation, especially in the mining centres. Looking at the expenditure that the government has made in the Kootenay country especially, in opening up the country by roads and other conveniences; it was only reasonable to expect that that section should make some return. The government had given to the Nakusp & Slocan \$647,000 in cash, to the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway in land, 615,

thing to Kootenay to give land to railroads that were proposed to be built in it. Mr. Kellie also claimed that the people of Kootenay were more liberal minded than those of the lower country. They sought their rights, of course, but were not averse to helping any project that was intended to benefit another section and so, incidentally, the whole province. To be consistent, these hon. members from the more thickly populated districts who are always preaching retrenchment, should begin at home. Coming to deal with the bill itself, Mr. Kellie said the government had come down with a tax on mining which he personally did not believe to be a fair tax, but a delegation of mining men had been here and, after interviewing the government, had expressed themselves satisfied with the tax, and he therefore could not oppose it; but he did not think it fair that, if it cost \$15 a ton to mine ores and the profit was \$5 or \$8 a ton, the mines should be taxed one per cent. There was a tendency to discriminate against low grade properties. However, Mr. Kellie thought that after a year's trial the government would be able to bring in a better and more equitable tax than is imposed by this bill.

Mr. Macpherson followed, showing that Vancouver paid in \$284,000 more than had been expended in the district by the government. He also condemned the government for not bringing down the estimates so that the house would be able to deal intelligently with

the bill.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

to intelligently discuss this bill till it was known for what purpose the money was required. Mr. Williams had that confidence in the government to know that it was not in the interest of the country to trust them with any more money than could be helped, and it would therefore be in the interests of the country to vote against this bill.

Mr. Kitchen would vote against the bill if for no other reason than that the government had not yet shown the house that they intended going in for retrenchment before proposing to increase the burdens of the people. Had a system of economy been commenced years ago the country would not now be in the peculiar predicament that it is, and although the country had returned the government to power, and seemed to support their policy of extravagance, yet members of the opposition side of the house, in justice to their constituents, must vote against the second reading of this bill.

Mr. Hunter would support the bill, as it could be shown that there was some reason for imposing further taxation, especially in the mining centres. Looking at the expenditure that the government has made in the Kootenay country especially, in opening up the country by roads and other conveniences; it was only reasonable to expect that that section should make some return. The government had given to the Nakusp & Slocan \$647,000 in cash, to the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway in land, 615,

thing to Kootenay to give land to railroads that were proposed to be built in it. Mr. Kellie also claimed that the people of Kootenay were more liberal minded than those of the lower country. They sought their rights, of course, but were not averse to helping any project that was intended to benefit another section and so, incidentally, the whole province. To be consistent, these hon. members from the more thickly populated districts who are always preaching retrenchment, should begin at home. Coming to deal with the bill itself, Mr. Kellie said the government had come down with a tax on mining which he personally did not believe to be a fair tax, but a delegation of mining men had been here and, after interviewing the government, had expressed themselves satisfied with the tax, and he therefore could not oppose it; but he did not think it fair that, if it cost \$15 a ton to mine ores and the profit was \$5 or \$8 a ton, the mines should be taxed one per cent. There was a tendency to discriminate against low grade properties. However, Mr. Kellie thought that after a year's trial the government would be able to bring in a better and more equitable tax than is imposed by this bill.

Mr. Macpherson followed, showing that Vancouver paid in \$284,000 more than had been expended in the district by the government. He also condemned the government for not bringing down the estimates so that the house would be able to deal intelligently with

the bill.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration.

Mr. Cotton resumed the assessment act, saying that he had some observations to make on the taxation at a time when the government had the measure under consideration. He said that the government had the measure under consideration, and he had some