Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND, 1889.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Third Session of the Fifth Parliament.

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY.

FRIDAY, March 15, 1889.

Mr. Speaker Pooley took the chair at 2:15 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers were read by the Rev. J. W. Wadman.

PETITIONS.

Mr. Allen presented the petition of a number of residents of Lillooet district.

RECEIVING PETITIONS.

The petition of J. M. Carrall and other miners of Rogers' Pass, Illecillewaet and Donald, *re* amendments to the Mineral Act, was read, and on motion received.

TO AMEND THE JURORS ACT.

Mr. Ladner asked leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act to amend the 'Jurors Act'" (Chap. 64, Consolidated Acts, 1888).

Leave granted. Bill read a first time. Second reading on Monday.

ELECTIONS REGULATIONS BILL.

Mr. Higgins moved the adoption of the report on the Elections Regulations Bill. Carried.

Bill read a third time, and passed.

NEW WESTMINSTER SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

On motion of Mr. Bole, the report of the committee on the New Westminster Southern Railway Bill was adopted, and the third reading of the Bill set down for Monday.

GAME PROTECTION.

Mr. Tolmie moved the adoption of the report of committee on the Game Protection Bill (No. 36).

Mr. Semlin thought that the third clause in the bill, in reference to shooting by torchlight, was unnecessary, the subject being already covered by the existing game law.

Mr. Tolmie moved to strike out the unnecessary section.

Notice of the motion being required, the matter was allowed to stand over for a few days.

VANCOUVER STREET RAILWAY.

On the consideration of the report of committee on the Vancouver Street Railway Bill (No. 23), Mr. Bole said that the bill would have to be recommitted for the purpose of making necessary amendments of which due notice had been given.

VICTORIA LUMBER AND MANUFACTURING CO.

Mr. Fry, in moving the second reading of this bill, called the attention of the House to the gratifying fact that our great timber resources had attracted foreign capitalists to come here and help to develop them. It was the intention of the gentlemen whose names appeared on the face of the bill to take a very large share in the enterprise. While the fact could not but be gratifying to the province at large, it was scarcely flattering to those who had so long allowed these wonderful resources to lie dormant. We probably carry out the manufacture of timber in its various forms, not only required capital, but a thorough knowledge of the business in all its branches, including a knowledge of and connections with all the best markets. This the promoters of this bill possessed in an eminent degree, as they had been engaged in a similar enterprise on a very large scale and for some time past in the State of Wisconsin. It was the intention of the promoters of the bill to erect and equip in the most thorough manner with the best modern machinery, not only one or perhaps two mills in the neighborhood of the city of Victoria, but many more in other parts of the Province, wherever timber suitable for their purpose could be found. Some of the members of the company had already invested a large amount of capital in the purchase of the Chemainus saw-mills, and had acquired some extensive timber limits, but they desired in forming the company, to push their enterprise to such an extent as should enable them to make the name and fame of British Columbia lumber known in every market in the civilized world. It would be observed that the capital mentioned in the bill was one million dollars. Any enterprise that proposed to invest and employ this large amount in assisting to develop this most important existing, but comparatively dormant asset of the Province, should meet with the approbation and encouragement of the House, and he therefore trusted that the honorable members would not only cordially pass the second reading of the bill, but that they would also deal liberally with it in committee.

Hon. Mr. Humphreys, while also feeling gratified at the proposed introduction of foreign capital to the encouragement and development of the lumbering industry, thought that certain amendments should be made in committee. The capital of the applicants for incorporation was not said to be $1,000,000. They proposed to issue shares to that amount and would dispose of these shares. Their application for incorporation did not state that they proposed to sink $1,000,000 of their own in the enterprise.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir said that he knew all about the company, although he was not in it.

Hon. Mr. Humphreys—I am sorry for that.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir, continued, stating that the gentlemen composing the prospective company had no intention of placing a share on the market. They only wanted incorporation, and proposed to erect two more mills besides the one they had bought, with a capacity of 100,000 feet a day each. They had purchased an immense amount of timber land, and would do very much for the development of the country. He was instrumental in getting the gentlemen named to come into the country.

Hon. Mr. Humphreys said he had no objection whatever to the bill. He thought that the privileges asked for were very broad ones, and that some very necessary and serviceable amendments should be made in committee. He intended however to vote for the second reading.

Mr. Fry did not think the hon. member for Comox could comprehend the amount of capital mentioned in the bill, $1,000,000. (Laughter from the hon. member for Comox). It was an immense amount of money, and represented one of the largest business ventures ever made in the country. The company were all solid men, with experience and capital at their disposal. They proposed forming a joint stock company, and he did not know whether or not any local men would become shareholders.

Hon. Mr. Davie, before the bill passed its second reading, objected to a certain clause in reference to the right of the company to purchase an unlimited quantity of timber land in the province for an indefinite time.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir said that they did not wish to purchase from the government. They had bought enough timber land from the E. & N. Railway Co. to last them all their lives, and for the life of a generation to come after them.

Mr. Bole advised that the life of the corporation and their right to timber land be limited to a stated number of years. It could be made 50, or 100, or, in fact, any number of years. He supported the objection raised by the hon. attorney-general. The company asked for the right to manufacture every class of wooden articles, including, he presumed, some legislators. (Smiles).

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir did not see why the company should not have a right to purchase land outright. If a single individual were to buy Campbell's corner would it not be his forever?

Hon. Mr. Davie—No, he'd die.

Mr. Grant could not see why the company should not be allowed to purchase timber land outright.

Col. Baker dwelt upon the advantages to be obtained from the proposed introduction of foreign capital. He could not see what advantages were to be obtained from limiting the length of time that the company should hold possession of timber land.

Mr. Semlin supported the objection taken by the hon. Attorney-General.

Mr. T. Davie could not see that anything was to be gained by limitation. The granting to a company of the right to hold land for perpetuity was common the world over, as well as in the province of British Columbia. The Moodyville Sawmill company held exactly similar privileges as it was proposed to give this company under their act of incorporation. He did not see why this company should be tied down, and their operations fettered, by limitations which did not apply to other similar companies.

Mr. Bole thought that by the section under discussion, the company was not confined in its powers, as was the Moodyville Sawmill company. The bill before the House, as it stood, gave the company power to deal with every kind of business.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir—And why not?

Mr. Bole did not reply.

Hon. Mr. Humphreys said that there was no statute extant in any civilized country similar to the one now before the House. It would give to the company the right to deal with other people's property as their own. The gift of a perpetual right of way proposed was not in justice to the rights of the people.

Hon. Mr. Robson referred pleasantly to Mr. Bole's little joke in regard to wooden legislators. It sounded very well coming from that side of the House. (Laughter.) There were, he said, three propositions to consider in the matter before the House. First, the company asked for power to transact almost every branch of industry. He did not see what objection could be taken to this, as long as they carried on their business in conformity to the laws of the country. Was it objectionable if they had so much capital that they could carry on this immense business? Was it not all the better for the province? The company should have the perpetual rights of way; and, despite the misleading remarks of the hon. member for Comox, it was arranged that any property taken for this purpose would be properly paid for. There was no injustice to anyone in the section he referred to. The right of perpetuity was just as much the right of a company as of a private individual. He could see nothing in either of the three objections raised. An alarm was taken apparently because it was proposed to bring in an unusual amount of capital. It looked as though the surmise of the hon. mover was correct—some could not grasp the magnitude of the amount. He would be glad to see not only millions but billions of foreign capital coming in to develope, and enhance the value of the province.

The bill was read a second time, and committed for the next sitting of the House.

MUNICIPALITIES BILL.

The House then went into committee with Mr. Semlin in the chair, upon the Municipalities Amendment Bill, (Mr. Beaven.)

The committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

COUNTY COURTS ACT.

Mr. T. Davie asked leave to introduce a bill to amend the "County Courts Act."

Leave granted. Bill read a first time, Second reading on Monday.

A RETURN ASKED FOR.

Mr. Higgins moved, seconded by Mr. Duck, that an order of the House be granted for a return of all correspondence relative to the claim of E. John, Jr., to compensation for imprisonment under a conviction by the Supreme Court—from which imprisonment he was released by order of the Governor-General. Such return to include the report on the case by the Chief Justice of the Dominion and the Minister of Justice.

The hon. mover proceeded to read the details of the case in question, amid the frequent interruptions of a few of the hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Davie said that there had been no correspondence other than one letter in which compensation was asked for. He could not see that it would be useful to bring down to the House that one letter. He did not think any claim could be established.

Mr. Bole suggested that the matter stand over for a day or so, and the debate was accordingly adjourned on motion of the hon. provincial secretary.

A RETURN.

Hon. Mr. Turner presented a message from His Honor the Lieut-Governor, accompanying the estimates of revenue and receipts for the financial year ending June 30th.

On motion, referred to the committee on supply.

The House rose to sit again on Monday at the usual hour.

TWENTY-FIFTH DAY.

MONDAY, March 18th, 1889.

The Speaker took the chair at 2:20 p. m.

Prayers were read by Rev. J. W. Wadman.

A PETITION RECEIVED.

The petition of A. B. Ferguson and others, of Lillooet district, (re the keeping of the public roads in repair,) was read and received.

REPORTED COMPLETE.

The committee on railways reported complete the Bills to incorporate the Columbia and Kootenay Railway and Navigation Company. The committee also called attention to the omission in the petition of the latter company—of any specified time for commencement and completion of work. The report was received.

The committee on standing orders and private bills, presented a report, dealing with the petitions asking for certain amendments to the Act of Incorporation of the City of Vancouver; an amendment to allow the City of Victoria certain rights in reference to street lines; and the incorporation of the Brocton Point Athletic Club. The report contained certain recommendations in regard to the petition of the Brocton Point Athletic Club, which Mr. Speaker did not consider allowable. The report was accordingly referred back to the committee for necessary amendment.

THE NORTHERN RAILWAY.

Mr. Higgins moved, seconded by Mr. Duck, that in the opinion of this House it is desirable for the government to take steps, during the recess, that will insure the extension of the Esquimalt-Nanaimo Railway to some convenient point or harbor on the northern part of Vancouver Island.

The hon. mover said, in introducing the resolution, that he must express regret that there existed no definite basis or policy whereby the provincial government could undertake or recommend the construction of railways throughout the province, in which case a motion of this character would be entirely unnecessary. If a governmental policy was defined, say that $3,200 a mile was offered by the provincial government and a like sum by the Dominion government, with the addition of a public land grant of liberal dimensions, there would be no difficulty encountered in forming companies to build lines wherever there was a reasonable prospect of their proving paying investments. Recurring to the resolution, he said that the Island of Vancouver was 300 miles in length. Already 75 miles of road had been constructed and was in running order. He assumed that the present "Island Railway" Company or the Western Pacific (Bute Inlet) Company would build from Wellington to Seymour Narrows. When this was done, there would remain but 105 miles to be built to reach the northern end of this island. The cost of this 105 miles would not exceed $3,500,000. The road would pass through an exceptionally fertile and favorable country; surveys already made, having demonstrated that many thousand acres of arable land exist between Comox and the head of the island. Estimating the extent of these lands at 600,000 acres, worth $2.50 an acre, their sale for agricultural purposes would go a long ways towards defraying the cost of the work. But when it was taken into consideration that vast deposits of forest, mineral and fossil wealth are known to exist on the northern part of Vancouver Island, and the high esteem in which these lands were now held by capitalists, he thought it was safe to say the extension he proposed might be built for alternate blocks of land on either side of the line. If a guarantee was preferred to a land grant, taking into consideration the valuable traffic that would pass over the road, two per cent. on a capital sum of $3,500,000 for twenty years should be sufficient to invite capital to take the work in hand. He did not think the policy of giving a continuous grant of land along a line of railway should be repeated. He favored the granting of alternate blocks of land, of say 10,000 acres. Thus the company could not improve their land, without improving the land reserved for the public. Would this line pay? The hon. member believed that it would. By its construction, the passage between Victoria and Alaska would be shortened two and a-half days, and if the magnificent conception of the hon. president of the council to establish a ferry across the Straits between Becher Bay and Crescent Bay with rail communication with Portland were carried out the trip from Sitka to Portland would be made in 3½ days. The effect of this construction would be to make one of the many snug harbors on the northern coast of Vancouver Island the terminus of ocean travel on the North Pacific. (Hear, hear.) He believed that the surveyor who were sent out two years ago, reported that they had found a favorable line for the road, and that they were of the opinion that its cost would be extremely light as compared with that of the Esquimalt-Nanaimo road. In conclusion, he asked the earnest and favorable consideration of his resolution by the members from both the mainland and the Island. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Allen enquired if it was proposed to open up the railway to Cariboo? If so, he would give his support to the resolution.

Mr. Higgins said that he had taken into consideration, and, in his remarks referred to the Bute Inlet road, which was to tap Cariboo.

Mr. Fry said that no resolution brought before the House during the present session had given as much satisfaction as the one now being considered. Without direct railway connection between the north end of the Island and the south, the Island could never be opened up. He dwelt upon the great importance of the matter dealt with, and trusted that it would be supported without sectional feeling, which sometimes retarded the progress of a country, although he was glad to say that it was noticeably absent from the deliberations of the British Columbia House.

Col. Baker, referring to the word "ensure," in the resolution, asked what power would thereby be delegated to the Government.

Hon. Mr. Robson, to meet the objection taken by the hon. member for Kootenay, moved in amendment, that the words, "with a view to ensuring" be substituted for the words "that will ensure." Speaking on the subject matter of the resolution, he said that he considered the extension of the Island railway, a national question of the greatest importance. Not only would the extension of the railway develope the finest mineral and agricultural resources of the northern part of the island, but would greatly advance the importance of the fisheries on the northern shores of the island, and would greatly increase the importance and value of the Alaskan trade. The most fertile agricultural portion of the island lying in the northern part, would abundantly justify the extension of the island railway on local grounds alone; while the increase of trade with Alaska and the Queen Charlotte Islands made it a most important national question. When at Ottawa, he discussed this matter, with other railway schemes, with the Dominion Government, who considered it not only of Dominion, but of Imperial importance. They would no doubt offer financial assistance in the matter of extending the road. This railway, the Shuswap Railway, and the road to Cariboo, were three projects which would, of necessity, have to go forward at once. The Government should have a determined railway policy, as without roads to reach the sources of her wealth, they would never be properly developed.

Mr. Allen thought that the resolution was too indefinite. It did not show where the railway was going. If the introducer of the resolution would guarantee that the railway went through Cariboo, he would support the resolution.

Mr. Martin thought that the hon. member for Lillooet was "a little off," in his remarks. He strongly supported the necessity of a determined and energetic railway policy, which was greatly needed to open up the different resources of the country. He felt a particular interest in the construction of the Shuswap railway, and hoped that it, as well as the railway referred to in the resolution, would receive the earnest support of the Government.

Mr. Semlin dwelt upon the great importance of a road to Cariboo, which was more needed than the one referred to in the resolution. A railway over the Seymour Narrows was also much more desirable. Railway communication with the interior, particularly Cariboo, was a greater necessity. The railway projects which he had referred to were of so much greater importance than the extension of the Island road, that he hoped the Government would first give them their attention.

Mr. Davie would certainly support the resolution. He did not know of a better way of promoting a railway to Clarke's Crossing, Bute Inlet, and Bute Inlet, referred to in the resolution. In this matter the interests of Island and Mainland were decidedly one. He thought he now held the time fairly in his hands, and was glad that the hon. member for Esquimalt had been the first to move.

Hon. Mr. Vernon suggested that to meet the advice thrown out by the hon. member for Yale, it would be well to amend the resolution instructing the government to also consider the furtherance of the other much needed railways referred to.

Mr. Nason said that the remarks of the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works met his views exactly. He referred briefly to the great importance of opening up a railway to Cariboo, and would certainly vote for the resolution, but wished to be assured that some steps would be taken to provide a railroad to Cariboo.

The resolution, as amended by the hon. provincial secretary, was carried unanimously.

THE MISSION TO OTTAWA.

Mr. Ladner moved, seconded by Mr. Orr, that an order of this House be granted for a return of all correspondence, not already printed and laid before this House, concerning the Hon. Mr. Robson's mission to Ottawa.

The hon. mover said that his reason for moving the resolution was a question asked a few days ago by Mr. Orr, and replied to by the hon. provincial secretary. This answer, he thought, was very misleading.

Hon. Mr. Vernon said that there was no objection to the resolution. The correspondence was ready now and would be brought down in a day or two.

The resolution was carried.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF QUARTZ MINES.

Mr. Higgins asked leave to introduce a bill entitled "An Act to amend 'An Act to aid the development of Quartz Mines,'" (chap. 85, Consolidated Acts, 1888).

Leave granted. Bill read a first time. Second reading Thursday.

THE BUDGET SPEECH.

Hon. Mr. Turner stated that it was his intention to bring up the estimates to-day, but, in deference to the hon. leader of the opposition, would defer the matter until Tuesday.

PUBLIC SCHOOL BILL.

Hon. Mr. Robson moved on the consideration of report on Bill (No. 9) "An Act to amend the 'Public School Act,'" the following clause in substitution for sub-section (9) of section 13:

"(9) With the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, for cause to summarily suspend from teaching any teacher, and to cancel for cause the certificate of qualification of any teacher until the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council shall confirm or disallow his action in suspending such teacher; and the cancellation or suspension of a teacher's certificate, when confirmed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, shall release the school trustees of the district in which such teacher may be employed from any obligation to continue to employ him as such teacher."

The hon. mover explained that at present the power of suspension was not granted, but the power of cancellation of certificates was. In many cases this was too severe a penalty, and his only object in moving the additional clause was to provide the milder remedy of suspension if necessary, and to provide that the trustees should not be embarrassed thereby.

Mr. Allen thought that the amendment to the School Act proposed was the most sensible move ever made by the Hon. Minister of Education.

Mr. Semlin congratulated the Hon. Provincial Secretary on the improved temper with which he approached this resolution. The hon. gentleman a few days ago had designated the teachers of British Columbia as "cranks." Three days ago the resolution was materially different. It was now as much improved as the tone of the hon. mover. He asked the Hon. Provincial Secretary by whose permission he had changed the resolution from the manner in which it had appeared on notice paper.

Hon. Mr. Robson said that more than three days notice had been given. He had amended his notice of motion, and was in no way required to consult the House on the matter, as more than two days had elapsed since the amended resolution appeared on the paper.

Hon. Mr. Humphreys contended that the Hon. Provincial Secretary was perfectly justified in amending his notice of motion. It was acknowledged that it was amended for the better. Surely a man had the right to change his mind if he saw fit.

Mr. Allen called attention to the manner in which, five years ago, the honorable member for Yale went over to the other side of the House owing to the action taken on a certain bill.

Mr. Beaven disapproved of both the amendment before the House, and the one previously put on the notice paper.

Hon. Mr. Humphreys was glad that the first amendment, prepared as the Hon. Provincial Secretary said, by the Superintendat of Education, had been replaced by a more temperate motion. The former was a mean, cowardly attack on the teachers, who were infinitely better educated and more capable men than the Superintendent.

Hon. Mr. Robson called the attention of the hon. member for Comox to the fact that the Superintendent of Education could not defend himself from his attack. He (the Hon. Mr. Robson) assumed all responsibility for the first amendment offered, and the hon. member for Comox could attack him if he felt disposed.

Hon. Mr. Humphreys continued to attack the Superintendent of Education, who, he said, should not be allowed to remain in his position for five minutes. The Superintendent of Education was immeasurably inferior, in point of intelligence and education, to the teachers, who were treated as he could not treat a class of schoolboys. The amendment, he should not be surprised to discover, was not changed on account of injustice, but because the Superintendent of Education and the hon. Provincial Secretary were "scared." He should not be surprised if it was found that this was done with the Superintendent of Education, who would "weaken" at anything. He did not think the same could be said of the hon. Provincial Secretary. He was very glad that the obnoxious resolution first proposed, was amended. He thought, however, that the existing act was quite sufficient to meet all requirements. He disapproved of any measure that would bring any intelligent body of men such as the school teachers of the province undoubtedly were, under the head of any superintendent of education, or any government. He hoped that the superintendent of education would be let once more free from the office which he was at present permitted to retain.

Mr. Grant did not consider the amendment necessary. School trustees should have something to say in the control of the teachers as they were the duly appointed representatives of people's wishes. He favored the substitution of the word "temporarily" for the word "summarily" in the resolution.

Hon. Mr. Robson, as a private member of the House, not as a member of the Government, said that with all due respect to the remarks of the Opposition, he would advise them at the present time, to let the matter go. When the time came he would have something to say about the School Bill as well as the entire system of education, which before long would have to be changed altogether. The country could not long stand the terrible expense which it was now called upon to bear. The cost of its maintenance, $136,000a year, was more than this province could afford. It was a big question, but it would have to be faced before very long.

Mr. Duck dwelt on the radical, although not very novel idea, of improving upon the existing act and the amendment proposed.

The amendment was carried on a vote of 14 to 7.

Yeas—Dunsmuir, Robson, Turner, Vernon, Allen, Croft, T. Davie, Anderson, Thomson, Fry, Duck, Tolmie, Higgins and Nason.

Nays—Eleven, Semlin, Grant, Humphreys, Orr and Ladner.

Mr. Semlin moved to amend section 52 of the "Public School Act," (Chap. 124, R. S. O., 1886, of volume 1, of the Consolidated Acts, 1888) as—

Sub-section 2—By striking out the figures "30" in the second line and inserting "25" in lieu thereof; and by striking out the words at the end of the section the following words:—"Candidates must obtain 40 per cent. of the marks attached to the written arithmetic and to the grammar papers."

Sub-section 3—By striking out the figures "40" in the second line and inserting "35" in lieu thereof; and by adding at the end of sub-section the following words:—"Candidates must obtain 50 per cent. of the marks attached to the written arithmetic, to the English grammar and to the mensuration papers."

Sub-section 4—By striking out the figures "10" in the second line and inserting "25" in lieu thereof; and by striking out all the words after "certificate" in the third line down to and including the word "grade" in the fifth line, and inserting the following:—"and candidates must obtain 50 per cent. of the marks attached to the written arithmetic, to the English grammar, to the mensuration, to the algebra, and to the geometry papers."

Sub-section 5—By striking out the figures "40" in the second line and inserting "35" in lieu thereof; and by striking out all the words after "certificate" in the third line, down to and including the word "grade" in the fifth line, and inserting the following:—"and candidates must obtain 50 per cent. of the marks attached to the written arithmetic, to the English grammar, to the mensuration, to the algebra, and to the geometry papers."

Sub-section 6—By striking out the figures "40" in the second line and inserting "25" in lieu thereof; and by striking out all the words after "certificate" in the third line down to and including the word "grade" in the fifth line, and inserting the following:—"and candidates must obtain 50 per cent. of the marks attached to the written arithmetic, to the English grammar, to the mensuration, to the algebra, and to the geometry papers."

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir could not see the necessity for the amendments proposed. The teachers were treated well, and he could see no necessity of lowering the grade of qualification required under the present system.

Mr. Beaven did not think it was proposed to lower the grade of qualification required for procuring teachers' certificates.

Hon. Mr. Robson opposed the resolution, which, he thought, would necessarily lower the standard of ability which the teachers of the province were now required to possess.

Hon Mr. Humphreys said that he would certainly support the resolution. It was not proposed to lower the standard of qualification. In fact, it would be raised in many important branches.

Mr. Theo. Davie considered that the opposition were doing their best to drag the school system as far away as possible from practical education. The proposal now was to place the teaching on a practical basis at a discount, and to offer a premium for those subjects which the average pupil could do without. If a teacher could attain only 50 cent. in the specific subjects of grammar, mensuration, algebra and geometry, he had only to attain 25 per cent. in the practical subjects, such as writing, mental arithmetic, bookkeeping, composition, practical mathematics and so forth. The effect was to enormously reduce the standard of practical education, and the teacher who might be proficient in the three or four branches of algebra, mensuration and so on, was to be held competent to teach about 99,000, the balance of the subjects, of which he knew next to nothing.

Hon. Mr. Turner had expected the introducer of the resolution to explain that it was to relieve certain teachers who had examinations over their teachers' qualification. If there was a scarcity of teachers in the Province it might possibly be needful, but there was not. He should certainly have to oppose the resolution.

Mr. Grant said that he would support the resolution. He thought that should it pass, the standard in the practical branches of education would be raised instead of lowered.

Mr. Semlin rose to explain his resolution, but was called to order, and requested to resume his seat by Mr. Speaker.

The resolution was lost on a vote of 15 to 6.

Mr. Beaven—(smiling). Fifteen counts more than six.

Mr. Ladner moved to insert a clause to amend section 54, chap. 104, Consolidated Acts, 1888, by adding at the end of the section, the words "and between the words "monthly" and "registers" in first line, and also to strike out the word "daily" between the words "a" and "record" in the second line.

The hon. mover of the resolution referred to the daily marking controversy. He thought there must be something in it. He had never met a teacher who approved of the system.

Hon. Mr. Robson thought that the question of daily marking had been thoroughly thrashed out. The teachers as a body approved of "daily marking" as the only principle of recording the standing of pupils that could give satisfaction.

The resolution was lost.

Mr. Higgins moved the following as a new clause in the School Act:—

"5. All holders of certificates who shall have taught continuously in the Public Schools of the Province for a period of twelve years, shall be entitled to have their certificates renewed without examination while they continue actively engaged in the service."

Hon. Mr. Robson supported the resolution.

Mr. Semlin thought that five or ten years could be inserted, just as well as twelve years.

Mr. Martin opposed the resolution. The teachers should keep up with the times, and the passage of the resolution was no encouragement for them to do so.

Mr. Grant was in accord with the resolution, and would vote for it.

The resolution was carried.

GAME PROTECTION.

On motion of Mr. Tolmie, the third section of the act to amend the Game Protection Act, was struck out. The report was then adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

VANCOUVER STREET RAILWAY.

On motion of Mr. Semlin, the bill to incorporate the Vancouver Street Railway Company, was recommitted, with Mr. Nason in the chair, in order that a few minor amendments might be made.

The bill was reported complete with amendments, to be considered on Tuesday.

A COMMITTEE REPORT.

Col. Baker asked the indulgence of the House to present the report of the select committee on standing orders and private bills.

The report was received.

VICTORIA LUMBER AND MANUFACTURING CO.

The House went into committee, with Mr. Martin in the chair, upon the Bill to incorporate the Victoria Lumber and Manufacturing Company. (Mr. Fry).

At six o'clock the committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again at the next sitting of the House.

Hon. Mr. Robson referred to the suggestion previously thrown out in regard to night sessions. He asked if Wednesday and Friday evenings would be convenient for the members.

No objection to these evenings was offered, and it was understood that night sessions be held on Wednesday and Friday evenings until the end of the present session.

The House rose to sit again to-day at the usual hour of two o'clock.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Mr. Orr—To move that a select committee be appointed to enquire into the ownership of lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, in Block I: and lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 in Block C in the old townsite of Granville, with power to call for books, registers, plans, maps and papers, and to report to this House; said committee to consist of T. Davie, Bole, Higgins, Mason and the mover.

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY.

The Speaker took the chair at 2.10 p.m.

Prayers were read by Rev. J. W. Wadman.

PETITIONS.

Mr. Ladner presented the petition of W. G. Lynch and forty others.

THE BUDGET.

Hon. Mr. Turner said—Mr. Speaker: In moving the formal resolution preparatory to going into committee of supply, I propose to follow the usual course, and make a short statement of the financial position of the Province. In doing this I ask the indulgence of the House to my manner and method. I asked this last year on the ground that the task was new to me; I ask it now because I am a year older; we are all a year older, and I feel that the older we grow the more consideration we should have for each other. I will say at once, sir, that the task before me is an agreeable one, made so, in fact, by the prosperous state of the Province. This year, it appears to me to have had a beneficial effect even on this House, as members on both sides appear to be in better humor than in previous years. I cannot but think that when matters have been gone into, that the hon. members of the Opposition will join in congratulating the country on the position of public affairs, as they will see, and no doubt candidly acknowledge, that their terrible forebodings of last session were groundless. The estimate of revenue and expenditure for the year commencing 1st July next, are before you. Taking the revenue first, you will observe that it is estimated to amount to $1,920,401, say in round figures, $700,000, an increase over the estimated revenue for the present year of $98,000. The principal heads of increase are: land sales, $10,000; timber royalty and licenses, $10,000; rent, $5,000; real property, personal property and provincial revenue tax, about $60,000. These increases, I may here remark, do not result so much from any increased rate of taxation, but are natural and result from the increased prosperity and business of the country, and indicate in a measure its growth. This estimate is made with the utmost care, and is based on the actual revenue coming in this year, which will amount to about $80,000 over what it was estimated at. I last year stated that, if anything, we had certainly rather underestimated it, in my opinion. All heads of revenue are so well understood that I will not dwell on them, but pass to the expenditure. This, sir, shows an net down at the large sum of $984,351, or $74,595 over the estimates for this year, the principal items of increase being public works, $36,000; education, $18,615; administration of justice, $9,000, and civil government salaries and administration of justice salaries some $10,000. I think it well to remark on the latter increase at this point; it arises principally from the largely increased public business of the province. It was found from this cause it was necessary, in order to keep up with the work, to make a number of new appointments. As illustrating this great increase of business, I will refer to some of the departments. Take the printing branch. The work in this department in 1882 was 1,755 pages and 231,000 impressions; in 1887 it amounted to 4,328 pages and 578,371 impressions, or an increase of 140 per cent. Whilst the expenses in 1882 were $5,572, in 1888, $10,466, or only 75 per cent. increase. The income in 1882 amounted to $392, and in 1888 had increased to $2,819; or 617 per cent. In the Lands and Works Department, the increase is also very large. Surveys alone were in number 92 in 1881 and 595 in 1887 and 1888. Letters received 2,900 in 1881-2, and 6,764 in 1887-8; in 1887-8 there were 2,740; in 1881-2 the revenue was $8,572; in 1887-8 it amounted to $15,450. These amounts as they stand show a great increase, but they do not represent it, as in 1881-2 all the work was done in Victoria; there is now the Westminster office in addition, doing about as much work as the Victoria office. I have not the comparison at hand, but at any rate the work in Land and Registry Offices must be now for the province at least three times in amount what it was in 1881-2. In the Treasury Department there is a corresponding increase. The hon. finance minister then referred to the following statements:

Comparative Statement Showing increase of work in Lands and Works Department:—

	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
Pre-emption Records	85	77	200	308	345	311	303	548
Certificates of Improvement	55	29	60	77	82	69	73	157
Do Purchase	205	201	374	604	305	369	351	355
Crown Grants	216	216	403	466	366	274	320	332
Total acreage deeded	23,141	23,609	54,637	146,199	128,811	50,472	73,950	94,276
Acreage leased for timber cutting			35,000	1,947	1,380	23,012	16,805	58,568
Acreage entered by Coal Prospecting Licenses							8,960	90
Letters received	1,31	1,617	2,463	3,357	3,260	3,485	3,079	3,141
Surveys plotted, etc. etc.	433	59	113	199	101	152	225	370

Return showing the number of applications for Registration of Absolute Fees and Charges received at the Land Registry Office, Victoria, and the Revenue collected therefor during the years 1887 and 1888, as against the years 1881 and 1882:

APPLICATIONS.		TOTAL.	REVENUE.		
1881—Ab. Fees	355				
" —Chgs	434	789	1881—	$3,757.44	
1882—Ab. Fees	540				
" —Chgs	435	975	1882—	$4,814.83	
1881 and 1882..Totals		1,764	Total..	$8,572.27	
1887—Ab. Fees	542				
" —Chgs	702	1,244	1887—	$7,260.91	
1888—Ab. Fees	568				
" —Chgs	928	1,496	1888—	$8,189.93	
1887 and 1888..Totals		2,740	Total..	$15,450.84	

Showing an increase in the number of applications for the years 1887 and 1888 over the years 1881 and 1882 of 976 and an increase in revenue of $6,878.57.

NOTE—The years 1881 and 1882 included registrations from New Westminster District.

During the years '87 and '88 large areas have been deposited in this office 40 subdivision maps—each of which requires a numerical index of the property subdivided—and during the same period 45 joint stock companies and societies have been registered.

CHAS. J. W. LEGGATT,
Land Registry Office, Reg'r-Gen'l.
18th March, 1889.

The increase for salaries under the two departments of civil government salaries and administration of justice salaries, arising from new appointments, is about $9,000, the balance of increase of $1,400 being for additions to salaries of present staff, there being slight increases to a number of the officers in proportion to some of the juniors, all made on the principle of giving a fair day's wage for a fair day's work. I am of the opinion that a good man should be well paid, and that it is better even to overpay than to pay too little. I shall, however, advert to this subject later. It is not necessary to go through all the heads of expenditure. They will be commented on as they come up in committee. I must, however, call attention to the liberal expenditure on public works, $277,000. This is an expenditure for the benefit of all; it is not lost. It produces works that are assets, and valuable assets, of the province; it increases revenue; it helps to increase our population, and it makes our common home a still pleasanter place to live in. This expenditure is arranged with a view as far as possible to assist all parts of the province. I must also refer to the expenditure for education, $130,250. This is exclusive of the cost of new school buildings. It is certainly a very large sum for our population; but if the people will have an entirely free system of education they must pay for it. Possibly, after all, it may be better and cheaper for the Government to pay all the costs of education than to follow the system of other provinces and countries, cannot help, however, remarking that the country whose people are said to be most generally educated and which has the largest number of children at school in proportion to population—I refer to Prussia where there are 170 children attending the elementary schools to every 1,000 of population—that in that country all children pay a small fee equal to about eight cents a month in country places, and twenty-five cents a month in towns. Our entire free system, however, may be an improvement on the system in Prussia. I will now, sir, return to the gross revenue and gross expenditure. As before said the revenue for the year ending 30th June, 1890, will be in the neighborhood of $700,000; this year's revenue will be about $680,000. Now compare these amounts with previous years, say 1883, when the revenue was $425,000. We have an increase of over 50 per cent. in five years, a very healthy showing; but my particular reason for returning to our gross revenue and expenditure is for the purpose of showing that the work of the country is done in a good and economical manner. I do this because it has been so often asserted in this House and in a certain portion of the public press that this government is running the country into debt in order to increase salaries, and by extravagant expenditures. I propose to show that the present government is doing more work and at a smaller cost than the government of 1881-1882, and possibly than any former government, for the amount of work done. I referred to 1881-1882 because it has been assumed that the Government of that time was a most economical one. For the sake of argument I will assume that it was; and further, that it did its work well. Admitting that, I can show that to-day there is more work done, and at less cost. As an illustration: Take a merchant who, in 1882, did a business of $100,000 a year at a cost for salaries of say $5,000; in 1886 he has increased his salaries to $7,000, but does a business of $160,000; it is plain, sir, that he is doing business at less cost in 1888 than in 1882. That is the position of the Government. I take the actual revenue produced in the province, that is to say the revenue after deducting the subsidies received from Canada. I deduct these because they are a fixed sum, paid half-yearly, and cost no labor to receive or bring to account. On the other side, I take the Civil Government salaries and the revenue service as the cost of conducting this business. Well, sir, in 1881 the revenue, after deducting subsidies, was $189,016; the Civil Government salaries and revenue service was $48,987, or nearly 26 per cent of the revenue; in 1886 the revenue was $198,217; the salaries and revenue service was $46,604, or 23½ per cent. Now turn to 1887, when the revenue, after deducting subsidies, was $328,247, the salaries and revenue service $69,074, or 21 per cent. In 1888, revenue, $386,527; salaries, &c., $73,083, or 19 per cent, and in 1889 the salaries and revenue service will not exceed 17½ per cent of revenue, so that every hundred dollars got into the treasury now costs $8.50 less than it did in 1881. This, I think, sir, fairly and effectually disposes of the hackneyed cry of the extravagance of this government which is raised by the gentlemen opposite. I have now hastily gone over the Estimates, and should like, if the House will bear with me, to refer to the actual condition of the assets and liabilities of the province. I am quite sure that the honorable gentlemen of the Opposition who have shown such a nervous anxiety respecting our funds, and whose organ was bewailing the other evening the terrible deficit, and feared that there would not be money enough next year to pay the member's sessional allowance, will be highly delighted to find that on 30th June next we shall have some $283,000 on hand to commence the next year with. They will now be able to rest in peace, and the organ can feel assured that even next session it will be safe to give a vote to the members of the House for fully the cost of the paper. We shall, I say, begin next year, 1st July, 1889, with $283,000 to the good. The Revenue will be $700,000, or a total of $983,000; expenditure $984,000, leaving about $100,000 on the right side on 30th June, 1890. This, with the normal increase of revenue, will give ample means for 1891. After that, the gentlemen who may form the Government will have easy work before them, as in that year the census will be taken, and one subsidy from the Dominion increased under the head of per capita grant by at least $50,000, and the total revenue will probably reach $950,000 or more. This, sir, is a very healthy state. The net amount is now $1,416,000