R'S
E
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S.

CURE

and relieve all the troubles incid-
us state of the system, such as
e, Drowsiness, Distress after
the Side, &c. While their most
cess has been shown in curing

SICK

Carter's Little Liver Pills are
e in Constipation, curing and pre-
noying complaint, while they also
ders of the stomach, stimulate the
the bowels. Even if they only

HEAD

d be almost priceless to those who
distressing complaint; but fortu-
dness does not end here, and those
them will find these little pills valu-
ways that they will not be wil-
out them. But after all sick head

ACHE

so many lives that here is where
r chief boast. Our pills cure it while

le Liver Pills are very small and
ke. One or two pills make a dose.
ly vegetable and do not gripe or
their gentle action please all who
vials at 25 cents; five for $1. Sold
verywhere, or sent by mail.

MEDICINE CO., New York.

Small Dose. Small Price.

conduct of elections in said
so long as the use of the
ine for conducting elections
ntained in said municipality.

IGHFLOWER ROAD.

nce between Members, Resi-
d Government Presented
to the House.

f the correspondence in re the
oad was presented to the house
etter No. 1, dated 3rd August,
ddressed to the Commissioner
d Works and signed by the
the Esquimalt district. The
d a petition against the clos-
oad, and further set out that in
57 Mr. John Russell had pur-
a land involved in the dispute
dson's Bay Company, the final
f the land being made on 21st
and the deed being issued to
on 30th December, 1864. The
never conveyed to Mr. Russell,
re he had not power to sell the
for roads. On 22nd May, 1868,
conveyed the land to Mr. J.
Nagle had the land laid off in
n being registered in the land
ce in Victoria, 27th November,
his plan, according to which all
e been sold, the road is shown
ough the lots. On the deed
Mr. Russell is a plan showing
Craigflower road. Messrs.
Higgins further submitted that
s a highway connecting the city
stricts of Esquimalt, Metchosin,
d Sooke, was in constant use
dents of these districts and had
1854. That the corporation
be allowed to close up a well
highway made and kept up by
ment for about 45 years and the
ose interests are affected. It
ore asked that the corporation
obstruction across this thorough-

o. 2, dated July 18, 1899, was
Messrs. Geo. W. Battersby, F.
enry Hearns and 39 others, and
members to take action in the

o. 3, dated August 4, 1899, was
o Messrs. C. E. Pooley and D. W.
igned by Hon. F. Carter-Cotton,
that the portion of Craigflower
oad to was situated within the
limits of the city of Victoria, and
fore out of the jurisdiction of the
t, and further that the govern-
no jurisdiction to interfere.

o. 4, signed by Thos. Gold, dated
21, 1899, asked Hon. Mr. Cotton
deputation from Esquimalt dis-
Victoria city in regard to the
the road.

o. 5, dated November 22, 1899,
Hon. Mr. Cotton, assured Mr.
the minister would be glad to re-
deputation on the 25th November.

TO LOAD LUMBER.

Fifteen Vessels on Their Way to
the Chemainus Mills.

are fifteen vessels on the way
ainus mills to load lumber.
e number are the Creedmoor,
ays from Manila; the Silo, 89
m Hongkong; the Sebastian
days from Iquique; the Glenal-
days from London with general
the Sound; the Rena Rickmore,
from Japan; the Crown Prince,
mburg via. Puntas Arenas and
mmond, Elwell, Lyman D. Fos-
J. B. Brown.

QUEER SALVATIONIST.

, N.Y., Feb. 4.—General Bal-
Booth, commander in chief of the
rs of America, son of William
ead of the Salvation Army, in
se of an address in the old La-
Street church this afternoon, re-
the war in South Africa, say-
the sun in heaven never had
a more unjust war than the one
Great Britain and the Trans-
peaking to a reporter afterwards
th said: "I am an Englishman
and education, and with all her
have some love for England
t my respect for her would be
nd truer had she not entered in-
uncalled for and unjust war,
as far as I can see will be one of
liest and darkest in the annals of

$25,000.00 GIVEN AWAY.

past year Dr. R. V. Pierce has
ny copies of his great work, The
Common Sense Medical Adviser, at
se of $25,000.00, exclusive of post-
is standard book on medicine and
contains 1,008 pages and more than
rations. It treats of the greatest
est problems of human life in sim-
ish, from a common sense point of
t answers those questions of sex
nger unspoken upon the lips of
d maiden. It is essentially a fam-
and its advice in a moment of
illness or accident may be the
saving a valuable life. This great
sent absolutely free on receipt of
o defray the cost of mailing and
Send 31 one-cent stamps for the
paper binding, or 50 stamps for
vers. Address R. V. Pierce,
N.Y.

(From Wednesday's Daily Edition).

Advised by the Lieut. Governor

Changes in Placer Mining Act Suggested by His Experience in Atlin.

License Act Further Considered --Prohibition District About Every Church.

Practically all of yesterday afternoon was spent by the legislature in resumed committee on the Liquor License Act amendment bill, the most material change in the measure being secured at the instance of Mr. McPhillips, who carried through a motion to the effect that no place for the sale of liquor shall hereafter be established within 300 feet of any church, school, or other religious or educational institution. The government also intimated an intention of meeting the wishes of the public by further reducing the fees for rural houses. The bill will probably go over to-day to permit of its being reprinted as already amended, and the debte resumed on the motion for second reading of the Coal Mines Regulation bill. There are night sessions announced for the remainder of the current week.

PETITIONS.

The house being opened by prayer by Rev. Canon Beanlands, petitions were considered as follows:

From the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, with respect to the amendments proposed in the Vancouver City incorporation act and its various amendments—this being received, ordered printed, and referred to the private bills committee; and

From the Kaslo board of trade, urging that the eight-hour law be either modified or repealed.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

In a report from the private bills committee, presenting the bill to incorporate the East Kootenay Telephone Company; and from the railway committee, presenting the Vancouver and New Westminster Railway bill—each of which was adopted.

MINING IN ATLIN.

In reply to the resolution of Mr. McBride, asking for a return of correspondence between His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor and the executive council, with reference to the Bennett Lake and Atlin mining divisions, and their administration,

Hon. Mr. Semlin informed the house that there "is no such correspondence on record, but I present herewith certain amendments to the Placer Mining Act suggested by His Honor, the Lieutenant-Governor, after his return from the said mining districts."

The memorandum is dated the 15th August, 1899, at Government House, Victoria, addressed to the Provincial Secretary, and reads:

"I have the honor to invite your attention to the memoranda hereunder of suggested amendments to the Placer Mining Act, and to ask that you lay the same before my executive council for consideration:

"1. Free miners' certificates for British subjects—entitling the holder to all privileges of a free miner—should not have an affidavit of citizenship thereon, to be administered by the gold commissioner at the time of issuance. Miners' certificates for aliens should be on paper of a distinctly different color.

"2. All claims should be numbered and recorded by number, and not by name as at present.

"3. Discovery claims should be allowed to one person, 400 feet along the creek by 800 feet wide; to two persons, 800 feet by 800; to three persons, 1,100 feet by 800; and to four persons, 1,400 feet by 800, partly on each side of the creek, or all one side.

"4. All other claims should be 200 feet by 200 feet.

"5. All fractions between claims should be held by the government, to be sold at stated periods by public auction.

"6. All claims should be surveyed by a government surveyor, for which the owner should pay a fee of $5.

"7. An annual fee of $10 should be charged for all certificates, and a fee of $5 for each record or lay-over.

"8. Any person who stakes a claim and—without reasonable excuse—neglects to record it, or to remove his stakes within four days (if within ten miles of a recorder's office) should be subject to a heavy fine or cancellation of his certificate—an extra day being allowed for every three miles additional distance from the recorder's office.

"9. Only one record should be granted of any one claim, making provision, however, for any other claimant to apply to the gold commissioner or a judge to set aside a prior record on the ground that the same was improperly made, or has become forfeit.

"I make these suggestions for consideration of council as a result of personal observation during my recent visit to Atlin, of the working and effect of the Placer Mining Act and regulations, on the development of the district, and as a result also of conversation had with experienced and reliable miners and mining engineers resident there. In this connection I may be permitted to say that while I strongly approve of the reservation of our placer mines for British subjects only, nevertheless I think that leases of placer ground that is suitable for hydraulic grounds apparently cannot be worked out for a long period of years, and a speedy development of the mining district would result from encouraging extensive hydraulicing operations. As stated in my letter of yesterday I thoroughly endorse Mr. Graham's suggestion as to modifying the terms of the mining leases at present issued, namely:

"'Sub-section 92 has been complied with and I would suggest that rentals be fixed at $50 per annum, and that some modification be made in the requirements as to expenditure. I might point out that the first years of operating the large placer grounds considerable expenditure has to be incurred, after which the necessity of employing so much labor is not apparent. Further—capital is very shy of accepting such conditions as are entailed in the body of our mining leases. I think any modifications in these requirements would be appreciated.'

"The present form contains stipulations that unnecessarily hamper and restrict those engaged in hydraulic operations, and so discourage investment of capital in that direction, without any corresponding advantage to the public insofar as I can see. I enclose the form of lease at present issued, and would suggest that something in the nature of the following clause might advantageously be substituted for the parts therein ruled out;

"..... shall and will during the continuance of the term hereby granted, save where prevented by stress of weather or unavoidable accident, or granted permission by the gold commissioner of the district, represent and in a thoroughly miner-like and effectual manner, work and mine for the precious metals and minerals in and upon and under all and singular the premises hereby demised or intended so to be, and shall and will expend upon the premises hereby demised or in such manner as shall conduce to the development of the same, a sum of $1,000 at least in each and every years during the continuance of the said term. Provided, however, that should the lessee or his assigns form a company for the purpose of acquiring, developing and working adjacent mining ground which has been or shall be demised under a separate mining lease or leases, then the said sum of $1,000 shall not require to be expended upon the separate parcel or parcels of mining ground so held under a lease or leases, or assignment thereof, but the proviso for such expenditure shall be taken to be and considered as fulfilled by an annual expenditure of the said sum on any such parcel of mining ground or part thereof as shall be so acquired and worked as a consolidated mining property by a company as aforesaid, and the covenants and conditions herein, or in any such lease contained, shall be treated and construed as if the mining ground so consolidated and worked by a company were the premises herein, or therein, demised, save and except that the covenants and conditions in regard to annual rent shall continue and remain in force for each parcel of mining ground separately demised.'

"'And that he will permit the gold commissioner for the district, or any person or persons authorized by him, during the said term to enter in and upon the said premises from time to time, as may seem reasonable or expedient to the said commissioner, for the purpose of viewing the workings and watching the progress of the work, and will permit him or them to examine the state and condition whether the said lesee or his assigns are working the premises in accordance with the covenants, conditions and agreements herein contained. Provided always and these presents are upon the express condition that if the said lessee or his assigns shall fail to pay the rent hereinbefore provided for the payment of the same, or if default shall be made in any of the covenants, conditions and agreements herein contained, then this demise shall become forfeited, and these presents and the term hereby granted shall absolute cease and determine and be void, and it shall be lawful for the gold commissioner of the district immediately thereupon to re-enter into and upon the premises, without any compensation to the said lessee or his assigns for work done or improvements made to the said premises.

"'In witness whereof, etc., etc.

"I have only to add that I shall be pleased to further discuss the suggestions hereby submitted at any such time as my ministers may desire."

LIQUOR LICENSE BILL.

Committee on the Liquor License Act amendment bill was then resumed, with Mr. McBride as chairman, the bill being taken up at section 5. To this Mr. Helmcken proposed a substitute section, the effect of which would be to make sub-section (c) and (d) of section 15 inoperative as to applicants for renewal of licenses. These sub-sections provide for applicants securing the petition and affidavit of interested residents in support of their applications, and for the giving of bonds by the applicants in guarantee of good behaviour.

The house unanimously approved the cancellation of the fresh affidavit requirement, but several members favored the retention of the bond as properly for the protection of the public, Mr. Booth introducing an amendment to the amendment in this behalf, and his views being supported by Mr. McPhillips and Mr. Joseph Martin.

Mr. Pooley proposed still another amendment, virtually cancelling section 15 in its entirety—as regarded the renewal of licenses, he held that these should be obtained by payment of the fees to the chief license inspector of the district, who should be authorized to renew without further formality unless complaint should have been preferred against the house.

The latest amendment to the amendment was lost on its presentation to the committee; whereupon Mr. Booth appealed for the retention of section 15 in its original form—which would mean that there should be no repeal of the bond provision.

This was not accepted by the government.

Next Mr. Eberts moved for the elimination of sub-section (b) of section 15, making provision for each applicant securing an affidavit of the neighbors to the effect that he is 21 years of age and has never been convicted of felony.

This after some brief discussion was agreed to.

Returning again to the bond provision, Mr. Joseph Martin urged that to destroy this safeguard was to strike a blow at temperance.

"I am not an extreme temperance man myself," he said, "but I have always supported and always will support such reasonable restrictions upon liquor selling as will make it as far as possible a responsible business."

Messrs. Kellie and Deane favored the repeal of the bond provision, on the ground that the remaining machinery of the act was sufficient to exclude undesirable applicants; while Mr. A. W. Smith held that the alleged safeguard was of no practical value in any event.

Mr. Helmcken's amendment having been accepted by the house,

Mr. Pooley proposed a new section as follows:

"Every licensee under this act may renew his license by paying the license fee to the chief license inspector of the district on any day prior to the termination of the existing license, but such inspector shall be at liberty to refuse to accept the said fee if he has any complaint to make against the said licensee, or if it has come to his knowledge that any person is about to prefer a complaint against the said licensee before the license commissioners."

The amendment was explained as for the purpose of making it unnecessary for applicants for renewals to go before the commissioners; and was opposed by the Premier as nullifying the necessity for and jurisdiction of the commissioners. Hon. Mr. Cotton held that the proposal was unnecessary, while Hon. Mr. Semlin thought it struck at the entire principle of the bill, besides which there were departmental objections to license moneys being paid to the inspectors.

Mr. Pooley—Well, pay the fees to the government agent or finance minister, then.

The amendment was rejected.

On the section applying to applications at other than regular times,

Mr. Booth described the section as a mistake, the effect of which would be to relieve applicants at regular times of paying a fee of $10 to the government.

Mr. Higgins—This applies only to applicants for the first time?

Hon. Mr. Henderson—Yes.

Mr. J. Martin supported Mr. Booth's view, and Mr. Kellie opposed the views expressed by him and by the member for North Victoria.

"Mining towns grow rapidly," he said, "and must have hotel accommodation."

Mr. Prentice endorsed Mr. Joseph Martin's view of the case.

Mr. Turner observed that "this section really does the government out of a fee of $10."

To dispose of the question an amendment proposed by Mr. Helmcken was accepted, to the effect that only original applicants pay the $10 fee.

Mr. Joseph Martin moved that the fee of $10 be raised to $20, and that a man who applied out of the regular time shall pay an additional bonus.

Mr. Kellie challenged the right of a private member to introduce such a motion.

Mr. Helgesen opposed the amendments with a declaration that no more unpopular act had passed into law last session than this. (Laughter.)

"Come and sit on this side," called some one on the opposition benches.

Mr. Helgesen—It is no use making the act worse than before.

Mr. Prentice—Hear, hear.

Mr. Eberts—I regret there is a row in the camp. My honest friend from Cariboo has let out the secret. "This was the most unpopular act passed by the government last year."

Mr. Helgesen—I will say it yet, sir.

Mr. Eberts knew that when the senior member for Cariboo said a thing he stuck to it. Many others on the government side, he believed, thought some sections of the act oppressive, and he would look for their support when he came to move his amendment to reduce the fee in rural districts from $100 to $60.

Hon. Mr. Henderson asked for the chairman's ruling as to whether Mr. Martin's amendment was in order, Mr. Martin claiming that it was and that the matter had been settled by precedent, inasmuch as Mr. Helmcken had just moved an amendment adding $10.

As the government had given consent specially to Mr. Helmcken's amendment but opposed Mr. Martin's, the chairman ruling the latter out of order. Section 8 was struck out as no longer required in view of Mr. Helmcken's amendment.

Mr. Booth proposed to allow all parties within a radius of five miles to have a voice in the granting or refusing of a new license where one already existed in the district, this failing however to secure the approval of the house.

A radical change was next proposed by Mr. McPhillips, who moved that "no license shall hereafter be granted under the provisions of this act for the sale of liquor upon any premises to which the license has not heretofore been granted, within 300 feet of a building occupied exclusively as a church, or high school, public school, university, college, or other public or educational institution. He said he had taken the provisions from the Ontario act.

Mr. Green opposed the section as likely to have a disastrous effect on some small towns where churches were in the midst of the town. Many premises now occupied by hotels were not 300 feet from such institutions. Of course it did not affect these but still the amendment was undesirable.

The amendment was carried by a large majority.

On reconsideration of section 9, referring to the hearing of applications, Mr. Booth moved to the effect that every hearing of an application shall be open to the public and every applicant for a new license shall attend personally at such hearing unless prevented by sickness or infirmity.

This was agreed to.

Mr. Eberts moved an amendment to amend section 43 so as to provide that rural license-holders shall only pay $60 fees in place of $100.

Mr. Prentice had an amendment which went further than this. It provided for a new class of village licenses, and stipulated that $50 should be collected from license holders in villages of from 50 to 100 people. He understood from the Finance Minister that he intended to consider this matter and perhaps it would be better for the section to be laid over.

Hon. Mr. Cotton said several members had spoken to him on this subject. They thought, in regard to some of these small rural houses, that there should be a special class of license, and that if there were three classes of licenses instead of two, the hardships of some of these small wayside houses would be met. Of course that had been the aim of the government in making the modifications of the act of last year, and in the present bill. The government would consider the matter and before the bill went out of committee would make public its decision on the matter and then, of course, if it was not satisfactory members could move any amendment they wished.

The amendments were withdrawn.

Section 13 was, on the motion of Mr. Joseph Martin, amended by striking out the provision abolishing the $10 fees upon applications for transfer; this fee will still have to be paid.

Some discussion arose on the clause providing for the cancelation of a license on the application of the licensee.

Messrs. Pooley and Higgins claimed that the section placed too much power in the hands of the chief license inspector.

Mr. Helmcken proposed an amendment to the effect of this that cancellation by the inspector could only be on the application of the licensee.

Hon. Mr. Henderson said that was not intended, that there should be any cancellation unless the licensee asked for it, and the amendment was agreed to.

The steamer licenses section was next taken up and Mr. Deane said he had thought the Attorney-General would have had an amendment ready to meet the objection regarding the authority of the province over the seas.

Hon. Mr. Henderson argued that no steamer trading between British Columbia and China, Australia or anywhere else had the right to sell liquor while in British Columbia ports, or in the waters under British Columbia's jurisdiction, without a provincial license. The clause did say that steamers should not sell liquor on the high seas.

Mr. Joseph Martin: "That is exactly what it does say." He claimed that the provincial jurisdiction should be specifically limited.

Hon. Mr. Henderson: "That is all we could assert. It could not be urged that the provincial had any right to prevent owners of steamships from selling liquor on the Pacific ocean."

On the motion of Mr. Deane the clause was amended to read that special licenses may be granted by the superintendent of provincial police to any person for the sale of liquor on any steamer "within British Columbia waters."

The penalty section for selling liquor on a steamer while in port was passed, but much discussion took place on the clause declaring that the precise description of liquor shall be unnecessary, and that the magistrate trying the case be at liberty to infer that the liquor was intoxicating from the fact that a witness described it by a name which is commonly applied to an intoxicating liquor.

Mr. Joseph Martin opposed the section, as under it a hotelkeeper was liable to be fined heavily if anybody was prepared to say that certain liquor he sold was rum, or some other intoxicating liquor. This was an entire violation of the rules of evidence.

Hon. Mr. Semlin said it had been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the government, and he thought to the people, that some amendment on the proposed line was necessary. In Victoria there was a great amount of drunkenness among Indians about the time of the return of the sealers, but few convictions could be obtained because there was no onus of proof on the party selling the liquor.

Hon. Mr. Henderson disagreed with Mr. Martin when he said that he changed the law of evidence. He submitted that it did not necessarily make it any easier to obtain a conviction against a person who violated the law than heretofore, provided that the magistrate who tried the case was actually up to his work.

Mr. McPhillips objected to such drastic legislation.

Mr. Martin moved as an amendment to strike out the chief part of the clause, the amendment being defeated.

Mr. Helmcken agreed with Mr. McPhillips' view. No matter who a man was he should be given a fair trial and the benefit of the dout if any existed.

Mr. McPhillips moved an amendment striking out the clause and substituting another which he considered to be less drastic and more fair.

Hon. Mr. Henderson said that amendment was just a different way of expressing the same thing. He accepted the amendment, which was agreed to.

The section regarding commercial travellers' licenses was partially considered, Mr. Martin remarking that the section assumed that there were wholesale licenses under this act, but that there really were none. There were only two kinds of licenses—hotel licenses and shop licenses, called wholesale licenses.

After much discussion two sub-sections were laid over and a new sub-section added as follows:

"This section shall apply to the whole of the province."

Mr. Booth pressed on the Attorney-General that provision should be made for commissioners' cancelling licenses to make a report to the Attorney-General's department, and it was promised that the suggestion should receive consideration.

The committee rose at 6 o'clock, reporting progress, and to sit again at the next sitting of the house—by which time it was promised that the reprint of the bill as already amended will be laid before the members.

Prior to adjournment Hon. Mr. Semlin gave honorable members fair warning that night sessions are intended during the remaining three days of the present week.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

By Mr. Joseph Martin—To introduce a bill amending the Supreme Court Act.

By Mr. Joseph Martin—To move: "That whereas the government has an extremely narrow majority (if any), and may at any time meet with defeat, and the result of such defeat may mean a general election; and whereas the party which the present government purports to represent took strong ground which in opposition against the present unfair distribution of seats; therefore be it resolved that in the opinion of this house a fair and equitable distribution of seats should be brought down by the government before any other business is attempted, and the failure of the government to take this course is much against the public interest."

By Mr. Helgesen—To move: "That whereas under the provisions of the Naturalization Act many Chinese and Japanese have become British subjects; and whereas it is highly detrimental to the best interests of the country that the franchises and other rights and privileges attached to British citizenship should be conferred upon Mongolians or any native race of Asia: Be it therefore resolved that this house views with alarm the admission of Mongolians to the rights of citizenship; and that the Dominion government be requested to so change the naturalization laws that it will be impossible for any Mongolian or person belonging to any other of the native races of Asia to become a British subject."

QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED.

By Mr. Martin—When was Mr. C. B. Sword appointed private secretary to the Premier? When did he resign, and why? Was he re-appointed, and if so, when? Why was he paid for services during the months of July and August, 1899, and not for the months of January, February, March, April, May and June, 1899? Who paid him for the last mentioned months, and why?

By Mr. McPhillips—Is the report true that a person has lately been appointed as guard at the Kamloops provincial gaol, who some time before had been dismissed for cause from the government employ?

VOLUNTEERS FOR AFRICA.

New Offers Still Coming in—List for the Patriotic Fund—The Public Meeting.

Though Ottawa has as yet failed to place in the hands of the British Columbia government instruction to proceed with the recruiting of the British Columbia mounted contingent, interest in the matter has in no wise abated. Even far-away Dawson has heard the mother country calling, as is evidenced by the following telegram which was placed in the hands of the local government yesterday by Mr. C. H. Gibbons of the Colonist:

"Dawson, N.W.T.,

"Via Bennet, Jan. 26.

"C. H. Gibbons, Victoria:

"Re province and Strathcona's offers. Inform government can raise 50 or more rough riders and police here for service in South Africa.

"(sd.) HENRY J. WOODSIDE,

"Capt. Canadian Cavalry, unattached."

The telegram was read in the house by Hon. Dr. McKechnie, who in an appropriate speech expressed gratification at this further evidence of practical loyalty on the part of the citizens of Dawson. The announcement was greeted with applause.

Acting under instructions from Lord Minto, the Governor-General, the Lieutenant-Governor will place in the banks, newspaper offices and other public places, subscription lists on account of the national patriotic fund. The money which will be collected will be disbursed for the following purposes:

1. For the benefit of the widows, orphans and other dependents of officers and men of the military forces of Canada who may unfortunately lose their lives in or in connection with the war operations in South Africa.

2. For the benefit of the soldiers themselves or employees of the Canadian government attached to the contingent in South Africa who may have been disabled by wounds or sickness, etc.

3. For the benefit of the wives and children and dependents, separated at home from husbands and fathers and guardians by the exigencies of the campaign.

Northwest Farm and Home, Illustrated Weekly, 50 cents per year. Seattle, Wash.

Slocan's Appeal For Freedom.

Legislative Interference With Industry Bringing Ruin to the District.

One Thousand Men Displaced and Six Months Output a Million Dollars Less.

More than ordinary interest attaches to the petition of the Kaslo board of trade now receiving the consideration of the legislature, in view of Kaslo's position as the centre of population and interest in the Slocan mining district—the territory more especially affected by the eight-hour law, with which this petition deals, and which the petitioners urge should be either repealed or modified. The board, after a careful review of the situation have come to the conclusion that it would be in the best interest of all classes of the community that what is known as the eight-hour law should be repealed, and a measure substituted therefore in such terms as will constitute eight hours a standard day's work in all mining operations underground, but which will impose no penalties where by mutual agreement between employer and employed, overtime is worked. The petition recites:

"Your petitioners beg to submit for the consideration of your honorable body the following facts:

"(1) That the Kaslo board of trade is the only board of trade within the limits of Slocan electoral riding.

"(2) That in this riding are located the mining camps of Sandon, Silverton, Slocan City, McGuigan, Whitewater, Ainsworth, Lardo and Duncan, the camps which have produced nearly all the silver-lead ore so mined in the province.

"(3) That the commercial prosperity of the whole riding and particularly of Kaslo, is contingent upon the steady and vigorous prosecution of work in the mines.

"(4) That since the date at which the eight-hour law (so-called) came into effect, viz., June 1, 1899, all of the large and many of the small mines of the Slocan riding have been idle or nearly so.

(5) That the shipment of ores from the riding has fallen from a total of 32,429 tons, worth $2,779,603, in the year 1898, to a total of 18,087 tons, worth $1,522,642, in the year 1899; and that for the seven months, from June 1 to December 31, the shipments have fallen from a total of 20,660 tons, worth $1,679,222, in 1898, to a total of 4,904 tons, worth $363,954, in 1899; and the number of men has been, we believe, for the period in question, less by one thousand than it would have been had the eight-hour law not come into force.

"(6) That the effect of this diminution of output and employment has been, and is now, great, due the ruin among the merchants, hotel men, those engaged in the building trades, manufacturing, transportation, and professional lines of business, all of which suffer in sympathy with the depression of the staple industry of the district.

(7) That the utmost harmony and good-feeling exists between the miners and their employers up to the time of the enactment of this measure; and that complaints as to the condition of the mines, or as to the rate of wages, were seldom or never heard.

"(8) That the news of the passage of the measure in question was received in the Slocan riding with astonishment. There had never been any agitation in favor of such a change; no request for it; no mention of it.

"Members of our board, familiar with the whole history of political discussion on the platform and through the press in this district for the past ten years, declare that they never saw nor heard a suggestion put forward by any one that such a change should be made.

"We have moreover been informed that this amendment was brought before the mining committee of your honorable house during the session of 1899, and that that committee, composed, presumably, of the members of the house best acquainted with the mining industry, and best qualified to judge of the expediency of the proposed amendments, refused to report in favor of it.

"(9) That the rate of wages paid in the Slocan camp, prior to the passage of this enactment, was $3.50 per day, and that a rate fifty cents per day higher than was paid in the neighboring camps.

"(10) We beg to call special attention to this fact, that the mines of the Slocan camp are nearly all worked by means of tunnels. There are few deep shafts, and as a rule perfect ventilation.

"(11) We submit that in any case the eight-hour shift is no adequate guarantee against injury to the health of the men. Eight hours is entirely too long for men to remain in workings where the air is foul; and the remedy for such a state of things where it exists is to be found in the greater rigidity of inspection, and a more vigorous enforcement of the law in regard to ventilation.

"(12) In tunnel mines that are well ventilated, it cannot be pretended that labor is any more exhausting than are many kinds of outdoor employment, while the danger of accident and the exposure to the extremities of temperature are much less. Men once accustomed to mining are unwilling to take outdoor work.

"(13) Hence whether this enactment is regarded as a privilege extended to miners as a protection, or as a restriction intended to limit their wage-earning power, there is not, it seems to us, the slightest reason why it should be applied to miners any more than to men engaged in the construction of railways, to lumbermen, carpenters or fishermen.

"(14) The mines of the Slocan camp are all nearly high up in the mountains. The men employed cannot live in town, or establish homes, within reach. The time between shifts can only be spent in the bunk houses, where the means of recreation or enjoyment are limited.

"No Sundays are kept at the mines because the men are unwilling to have an idle day, nor would they be willing to submit at all to the shortening of the day, except for the notion that the owners can be compelled to pay as much for an eight as for a ten-hour day.

"(15) Your petitioners submit that whereas the miners were at first indifferent or opposed to the measure, they have since by the agitation and by the persistent and strenuous efforts of the Western Federation of Miners, and to no small extent by coercion, gathered into unions, which unions are now demanding the retention or enforcement of the law, with at the same time the same rate of wages that formerly obtained for the ten-hour day.

"We submit that the Western Federation of Miners is an alien corporation, having its headquarters and the great bulk of its membership in a foreign country, and that its avowed and loudly declared purpose is to compel all mine owners and managers everywhere to submit unconditionally to its dictation, to work their mines subject to the inspection of their agents and to dismiss from their employ all men not members of the organization.

"(16) We desire to call your attention to the history of this society, as according to common report it has been exemplified in portions of the neighboring state of Idaho, where its membership has committed deeds of violence and crime, culminating in the destruction of mills and mining works by dynamite, and the murder of unoffending men.

"That the law and authority of that state were in the Cour d'Alene camps set at defiance, and those districts are now, and have been for the last nine months, under martial law, and garrisoned by United States troops, and are now as a consequence, as we are informed, in the enjoyment of a period of peace and prosperity not known under the dictatorship of the unions there.

"(17) The rate of wages offered by the mines of the Slocan is the same as is paid in the neighboring camps of Nelson and Rossland (and for some classes of work, a higher rate), and is a rate that would be accepted by men in the province, by men from Eastern Canada, from the United States and from Great Britain. And it is only by the persistent efforts of the unions, exerted in the form of persuasion, warning, threats and intimidation, that such men have been kept out of the mines.

"(18) The advertisements of the unions, warning men to keep out of and away from the Slocan camps, have been circulated everywhere, some of those circulated in Eastern Canada containing the statement that it is contrary to the laws of British Columbia for men to come into the province under a contract to perform labor. The agents of the union are on guard at every depot and steamboat landing, watch every boat and train, laboring men travelling anywhere in the district are watched and followed, and compelled to account for their movements. If intending to go to work in any mine, which is not working in conformity with the demands of the unions, the men are beset with persuasion, and warning and intimidation, and where these are not successful, they are assaulted with foul abuse, and with thinly-disguised threats of vengeance. And it has only been, we believe, for lack of provocation and lack of opportunity that so far actual conflict and violence have not occurred.

"(19) The threat has been plainly made and published in the local papers of the district, that business or professional men showing lack of sympathy with the unions will be marked for their displeasure, and prominent merchants have been waited upon by officers of the unions and told that they were suspected of advising men to go to work in the mines, and that if this was proved against them the miner's union could and would ruin them.

reached a point in this district where it is intolerable. We consider that all combinations either to force the rate of wages up or down are against public policy, and should be to the greatest possible extent discouraged by law. But we hold that interference with the individual rights of men who are not discriminated against by special Dominion or Provincial legislation) to seek employment where they please, and on such terms as they choose to accept, is an outrage that cannot be allowed in this country, and if persisted in, must inevitably lead to such deplorable results as have occurred in the Coeur d'Alene camps.

"(21) The Kaslo board of trade about two months since made an effort to bring about a settlement of the difficulty, and succeeded in getting together representatives of the owners and of the men in amicable conference, the result of which was a report in public property. At that meeting it was stated in the presence of the delegates, that there was asolutely nothing in dispute except the rate of wages.

"The mine owners made an offer to give the rate of wages demanded by the men, for all classes of work except drilling, for which they would divide the difference of fifty cents per day that existed between them. This offer of the mine owners we consider to have been liberal, and it was generally so considered by all disinterested people; and according to public report, that we have not seen contradicted, at a meeting of miners, called to consider this proposition, the vote stood 137 to 17 in favor of acceptance. Notwithstanding this vote, however, the proposition was not accepted by the unions, but a counter proposition was made, viz., that they would accept the rate of $3.25 only for drillers in slopes, all other drillers to get the full rate of $3.50 per day; that representatives of the miners' unions should be allowed to inspect the mine once a month; that mine owners should employ men only on the scale of competency given by the men of the unions; and that the agreement should be terminable upon thirty days' notice, conditions which were inserted contrary to the explicit understanding had at the joint meeting, and that there was nothing except the rate of wages in dispute.

"(22) We believe that a change in the law in the direction that we have suggested, which would simply be putting the eight-hour day on the same footing as the ten-hour day has hitherto been, upon, would be satisfactory to the mine owners, and to many of the miners, we believe to the great majority of the miners who are citizens of this country; that it would lead to an immediate settlement of the difficulty, and to resumption of the work with the full rate of the wages formerly paid.

"(23) We believe that in densely populated countries, where avenues for the employment of labor are few, the policy of lessening the hours of labor, with a view of giving employment to a larger number of people, may be justifiable. But in this province, with its paucity of population and its plethora of natural wealth awaiting development, the very opposite is true; and men of industry and thrift should not be debarred from the privilege of supplementing their ordinary earnings by the proceeds of overtime work.

"(24) At the same time we believe that the establishment of eight hours as a standard day's work (which standard would be operative in all cases where a greater length of day was not specifically contracted for) would have a powerful moral effect in fixing that as the ordinary length of a shift, so that after a few years, without apparent violence or injustice, and without a wanton and arbitrary interference with the right of contract and with the personal liberty that all men of mature age are supposed to have, of regulating their own hours of labor, all of the good purposes that are contemplated by the advocates of the measure as it now stands will be brought about.

"And your petitioners, etc.

"Signed on behalf of the Kaslo Board of Trade.

"G. O. BUCHANAN,
"President.
"O. A. SUTHERLAND,
"Secretary.
"W. F. WHEELANS,
"W. J. HOLMES,
"H. GIEGERICH,
"Committee."

CARNEGIE'S BLUFF.

New York, Feb. 5.—Andrew Carnegie has informed Democratic senators that if anti-Imperialism is treated as the leading issue he will make a larger contribution to the Democratic campaign fund than he ever did to the Republican national committee, says a Washington despatch to the Press. The Democratic managers expect to get from him not less than $1,000,000. According to one senator Mr. Carnegie made to him the statement that he had offered to pay the $20,000,000 which the United States gave to Spain if the government would abandon the Philippines.

Mrs. Chas. Smith of Jimes, Ohio, writes: I have used every remedy for sick headache I could hear of for the past fifteen years, but Carter's Little Liver Pills did me more good than all the rest.

BEECHAM'S PILLS

For Bilious and Nervous Disorders, such as Wind and Pain in the Stomach, Sick Headache, Giddiness, Fulness and Swelling after meals, Dizziness and Drowsiness, Cold Chills, Flushings of Heat, Loss of Appetite, Shortness of Breath, Costiveness, Blotches on the Skin, Disturbed Sleep, Frightful Dreams, and all Nervous and Trembling Sensations, etc. These ailments all arise from a disordered or abused condition of the stomach and liver.

Beecham's Pills, taken as directed, will quickly restore Females to complete health. They promptly remove any obstruction or irregularity of the system. For a

Weak Stomach, Impaired Digestion, Sick Headache, Disordered Liver, etc.,

they act like magic—a few doses will work wonders upon the Vital Organs; Strengthening the Muscular System, restoring the long-lost Complexion, bringing back the keen edge of Appetite, and rousing with the *Blushing Health and Vigor the whole physical energy* of the human frame. For throwing off fevers they are specially renowned. These are "facts" admitted by thousands, in all classes of society, and one of the best guarantees to the Nervous and Debilitated is that *Beecham's Pills have the Largest Sale of any Patent Medicine in the World. This has been achieved without the publication of testimonials, the best proof that Beecham's Pills recommend themselves.*

Beecham's Pills have for many years been the popular family medicine wherever the English language is spoken, and they now stand without a rival.

25 Cents at all Druggists.

Annual sale 6,000,000 boxes.

EPPS'S COCOA

GRATEFUL COMFORTING

Distinguished everywhere for Delicacy of Flavour Superior Quality, and Highly Nutritive Properties. Specially grateful and comforting to the nervous and dyspeptic. Sold only in ½-lb. tins, labelled JAMES EPPS & CO., Ltd. Homœopathic Chemists, London, England.

BREAKFAST SUPPER

EPPS'S COCOA

LOCAL NEWS.

The Enterprise Mine.—The Colonist is in receipt of advices from Slocan, which say that notwithstanding the opposition of the miners' union, the Enterprise mine is now only 18 short of a full complement of men.

Holmes-Hale.—Capt. W. E. Holmes, of this city, who has been navigating the northern rivers for several years, was married at Dawson on January 11 to Mrs. Gladys Hale. Rev. A. E. Hetherington performed the ceremony at the Methodist parsonage. They will reside at Indian River, where Capt. Holmes is stationed.

Reclamation Scheme.—Although his option on the James Bay mud flats, granted by last year's council has expired, Mr. Henry Croft has by no means dropped the scheme. He recently had a letter from the agents in London, who are placing it before the British capitalists, stating there was some difficulty in floating companies at present on account of the war, but they were hopeful of success. Mr. Croft believes the option will be renewed if he succeeds in forming a company.

New Lodge.—Saanich Lodge I.O.F., has been instituted in the district, the name of which it bears. The officers are: Court deputy, Julius Brethour; doctor, E. C. Hart, M.D.; chief ranger, J. J. White; past chief ranger, Mark Hewitt; vice-chief ranger, W. R. Armstrong; rec. sec., Fred Turgoose; fin. sec., David John; organist, Wm. Wain; sen. woodward, Chris. Moses; jun. wood