year been lumped up as a W he thought would have the ef centrating too much power i of the government. Of course be highly indignant if he sug that power might possibly be political purposes, but it co overlooked that the governm man. The Attorney-General in would be indignant, and yet tion might reasonably be made of the possibility of an appro eral election, which so many this ed to indicate.

He expressed surprise that whatever had been said by the of the government about the land sales. There were ins men having purchased land good faith believing that so complied with the law the would see that they were prote had paid instalments, paid for vey of the land and in some had erected buildings-

Hon. Mr. Martin-Give a si stance of the men who have buildings. Col. Baker said he could. and

tioned the one of Mr. Wulffsohn i Kootenay. Hon. Mr. Martin-What building

he erect? Col. Baker retracted the stat that Mr. Wulffsohn had ere buildings, but he had paid for t

Hon Mr. Martin expre that the hon. gentleman should anyone erected buildings on the when it was well known no one

Col. Baker confined himself th the charge that men had purchased in good faith and paid for the sur it and had then been told they have their money paid on insta back again, but as to the survey would have to be the losers of that power, to take land back again f purchase was a power which had erto been used, not abused, He expressed surprise that nothing ha said by the Minister of Finance gard to this subject. The course had been adopted was one discred

to the province and to the governm Then the colonel began to be h ous, referring to the expected in from the source of marriage licens hinted in an elephantine joculari he hoped his hon, friend the P might be expected to be one of who would swell the revenue. M lin said he "was not old enough."

Then the government had ador policy which they honed would inf to them the popular vote, the red of taxation, but he noticed that the ers in the province were going made to suffer for the abolition mortgage tax. Then there was t clamation of the river bank at stoke. He might remind the gove that he took an active part in the tiations with the Dominion gover They said that they had put the a on the estimates one year and th vincial government would not to believing that the work came the duty of the Federal authorities was glad, however, that the good done by the late government had of avail at last and that his friends, the members of the govern had been able to get such an assi

from the Dominion.

A great deal had been said abo alleged deficit, but as a matter if the late government had been to go along without doing any works it would have been easy t had a surplus. But the late gove had laid down a definite police opening of the country, the const public works on a large scale. had been assured of the natural of the province, and had not hesit do what was necessary to open u resources which tended to the of the progress of the province net expenditure for the year 1898 been, \$2,001,031, of which \$729.08 been expended on public works, revenue for the same year was ! **623**, leaving a surplus of \$168.629. enue over expenditure, if public he not included. The policy of e ing the province by the borrow money cheaply and using it for works had proven a good one, as be proven by the fact that in ter there had been an increase of 1 cen, in the revenue of the provining the last ten years. It show be remembered that during tho years the province in common rest of the world had passed the

time of great depression He challenged the statement present government had reduced ficit to one-tenth of what it The excess of expenditure over last year had been \$561,408 Finance Minister estimated the for the coming year at \$214,884. would mean, if his statement rect, that excess should only ha \$56,000.

Still dwelling upon the public policy of the late government, ker said that the putting on numbers of men in bad time good effect. He believed it was and statesmanlike policy to ado he recommended the govern

Had anything been heard about way policy from the present go had brought down a measure would have the effect of retard carrying out of certain project ways, but had suggested which their places would be The past government stood upon cord of enterprise and provincial ment as against the retrenchmen of the present administration, w shown in the estimates an exubera party politics and an autter w statesmanship.

When Colonel Baker resumed hi Mr. Speaker put the question times, as is customary, and no or ing, rang the division bell. Mr. Victoria, opp.) was on his fee mediately the first tinkle of the was heard, but by every rule of d was too late. Mr. Speaker insiste on the rule being observed, and Booth was not allowed to speak, an motion to go into committee was to without division.

Needless to say this was a great prise, or rather the early terminati the debate was a great surprise, ing been considered almost certain the opposition would keep the talki until Mr. Speaker saw six o'clock Booth was very indignant, and torney-General Eberts walked

Whether it was a pity to cut discussion may be a matter of opinion, but the "big guns" to the left that one of the duties of the gove of the Speaker's chair having spoken, t seemed very likely little more of interest would be heard from that side of the House, so that perhaps, after al', the destinies of the country will not be had never heard from any of the memseriously affected by the summary shutting off of the speeches which the "born orators" might otherwise have inflicted upon the House.

VOTES GO THROUGH.

Mr. Higgins (Esquimalt, govt.) Was accordance with the resolution just passed, resolved itself into committee of the whole for the purpose of granting sup-The consideration of the various votes went through like clock-work, un-'snag' was unearthed by the senior The first thing that struck that gentleman was in regard to the reduction of department, particularly the district egistrar of the Supreme Court, who, Helmeken made the statement that this s not 40. Hon. Mr. Martin said that he had believed that payment was made, but the matter would have to be recufied if it were otherwise. The vote was

LAND REGISTRY SALARIES. Vote No. 32, \$25,000, land registry es for the year, was the next sub-

iect of Mr. Helmcken's attention. He wanted to know something about it. Hon. Mr. Cotton asked what information he could give the hon, member? Mr. Helmcken said he wanted to know anything there was to be known. Hon. Mr. Cotton said that it would

be noticed on comparing these estimates with those of last year the amount included in this vote amounted practically to the same as then set apart and detailed. Owing to the introduction of the Torrens system of land registration in the province, there would be certain changes necessary; those changes could not be decided upon immediately, and therefore it had been impossible to specify the individual sums to be included in the vote.

Mr. Eberts (S. Victoria, opp.) said that when the House was considering the second reading of the Torrens land regis tey bill he had made the statement that in the province of Ontario the system cost between \$50,000 and \$60,000 a year. He was told then by the Attorney-General that in this province the system would only cost \$20,000, but now he found that an increase had been made in estimated cost. This must have formed the subject of conference between the ministers and undoubtedly some reason existed for the increase. What was the reason?

Hon. Mr. Cotton explained that the government had given the matter very careful consideration, and as the cost was largely a matter of estimate only. they had thought it wiser to ask for sufficient in this sum, rather than find themselves compelled to increase in the supplementaries. He had given all the rmation on the subject that was at his command.

The vote passed.

SUPT. HUSSEY'S SALARY. The next vote, stipendiary magistrates, \$2,000, was also disposed of; but the following one, No. 34, provincial police, brought Mr. Helmcken to his feet again with a eulogy of Supt. of Provincial Police Hussey. He could not understand what principle had been followed in the reduction of that official's salary. He had not heard any charge of incompe tency against him, he was an old, tried and valued servant of the province and it seemed a decided hardship that he should find his salary reduced at this time.

Hon, Mr. Martin said the principle up on which the salaries had been fixed is that officials should be paid for the value rev- of the work they did, and not on the basis of what kind of men those officials are. Where a man has been receiving more than his office is worth, and competent man can be got to fill the position, the salary had been fixed at the amount for which that competent man could be secured and not upon any speculation as to how much the present incumbent of the office would be worth in other walks of life and occupations. the He was convinced that the government igh a could secure a fully competent man to perform the duties of this office for \$1,500 a year. He thought indeed that that that sum was an excessive one for the work of the position. That was the principle upon which the adjustments had been made, and although the work

of carrying that principle into effect is as yet incomplete, the government were young and had not had time to thoroughly master all the details of all the departments. This was a principle which he had no hesitation in saying would be found to be in the best interests of the province and of the service. Mr. Eberts could only follow in the

lead of Mr. Helmcken and speak very highly of Mr. Hussey. He might say that it was not from choice that Mr. Hussey was holding the position of superintendent of provincial police. He d held a very important position in which the upper country and had been brought down here by the late Hon. Mr. Davie because he was a man whose experience and ability peculiarly fitted him for the important position. It restainly seemed n by hard that after he had worked so long for the province he should find himself, now, if he might say so, in the afternoon of his life, reduced in salary when he might in other vocations have been ice of

earning more each year.
Col. Baker also objected to the reduction of the salary of the superintendsent ent. He believed that such a course three would have the result of demoralizing the service. Booth

Hon. Mr. Martin explained that the reduction in the salaries had become ebate necessary owing to the way in which the late government had fixed the remuneration of employees. Salaries had not stuff just as many birds and animals as been placed on a basis or a system; a heretofore greed man had been paid not because of the value of the work he did, but because he on of He admitted that Mr. Hussey was in have moderately capable man, there was

was a deliberate twisting of the At-torney-General's words. He believed that one of the duties of the government was to take the responsibility of finding competent men to fill the various posi tions in the civil service at salaries which would be fair recompense, and he hers opposite any complaint as to the appointments the government had made. The vote carried.

THE JUVENILE REFORMATORY. Vote No. 35, superintendent of the juvenile reformatory, Victoria, \$840, afcalled to the chair when the House, in forded another subject of conversation to Mr. Helmcken. He referred to the visit paid to the reformatory by the committee appointed on the motion of Mr. Higgins. He thought in the first place the reformatory should not be situated where til something in the shape of a small if is, in close proximity to the jail. The effect was the boys were considered as member for Victoria (Mr. Helmcken), jail birds, There should be some effisalaries in the administration of justice | drawing them from their evil ways. Then the superintendent, owing to the fact that twenty out of every twentythe estimates said, received an additional four hours he had to be in the reformasalary of \$500 from the Dominion. Mr. tory, was, in that sense, almost as much to remedy the present unsatisfactory

state of affairs. THE MEMBERS' INDEMNITY

Some fun was created when vote No. 42, indemnity to members, \$22,800, was the cost of living was about the same. reached. Mr. Eberts started it by asking if there had been no change made in on by referring to a previous occasion in the province to compare. when the willingness to reduce the sessional allowance to \$400 had been expressed by members now sitting on the government side. He said that if the Finance Minister would move to reduce the amount to \$400 he would support it. Mr. Cotton blandly recommended Mr. Helmcken to move it himself. The senior member for Victoria accepted the invitation in his most jovial manner and sent up the amendment. He had preexpressed his opinion that the valuable services rendered by the members were worth more than the \$600 for prisoners in fails, and Hon. Mr. Marthey now received.

Mr. Henderson (New Westminster) proposed to vote against the amendment. The arguments used by Mr. Helmcken as to the value of the members' services had convinced him, and he could not change so quickly as to be convinced one way, and vote another the moment afterwards. Mr. Martin to the effect that it was not Hon, Mr. Seml'n said that when a pro- the intention of the government to pay position was made some years ago to in- salarles for work that was not done. They crease the indemnity from \$400 to \$600 he were quite willing to pay a good price for had opposed it on the ground that the everything that was done, but that was people had elected the members to repre- all. sent them at \$400 a year, and he could not favor the idea of increasing that pressing an opinion thereupon. however, there had been several elections; the electors knew well how much the mem- salaries because someone must live. If the bers were getting and there was no expressed desire for a reduction thereof. Mr. Eberts thought the same principle which applied to the superintendent of provincial police applied to the payment of members, and the people knew very well how much the superintendent was to get, yet the government proposed to

change it without consulting them. Hon. Mr. Semlin pointed out that there was no parallel between the two cases. and he was rendering himself liable to in-The civil servants were servants of the government. The members were the ser-

Mr. A. W. Smith favored the amendment Mr. A. E. McPhillips was ready and willing to sacrifice himself in this way; Col. Baker also favored the amendment. Booth (Victoria opposed the reduction. The smaller sum might be sufficient indemnity for those members who reside in the city, but for those who lived in the country and had to leave their residences and business \$600, was none too much.

Mr. Kellie (Revelstoke, government) hought there was a good deal to say in favor of the amendment as far as it appl'ed to members in Victoria, but for mor ho represented a mining constituency and had to go over the greater portion of it every year \$600 was only sufficient. He prepared to walk out of the house if his services were not valuable enough o justify his taking \$600 sessional inmnity. He moved an amendment to the

Major-General Kinchant suggested that nembers for Victoria be paid \$100 and system. other members according to the distance f their constituency from the capital. Mr. Neill (Alberni) pointed out that the reduction of the sessional indemnity meant.

class legislation in that it would prevent any poor man from entering parliament. Ultimately both the amendment and the mendent to it were withdran, and it being close upon 6 o'clock the committee

urrent, the house was in the gloaming which was received with during the last half hour, which called wished the members to "go the estimates. The roads were generally worse in a farm-Mr. Speaker took the chair, "saw

o'clock," and the house adjourned until EVENING SESSION.

Helmeken immediately proceeded to distinguish himself as a critic of the government's estimates. PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

An increase of \$6,000 in the printing ofice estimates caused Mr. Helmcken to en quire why it occurred. He was informed that it was occasioned by a regulation of the Queen's Printer for stock and material PROVINCIAL MUSEUM.

A deduction of \$2,000 in the department of stuffed animals brought an enquiry from Mr. Helmcken. It was explained as Mr. Cotton said it was the intention to

ASYLUMS AND HOSPITALS Mr. Helmcken made the most of his op

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corres onde read ber fo Victoria and

growing of Francis

the chamber muttering that it was ar putting up positions for auction. That requiring more attendants, an additional founding upon it a, for him, very en- in the way of those prospectors and ed by his hon. friend, the member for Research would be a revenue from them. medical assistant and increased cost of maintenance owing to the greater number Hon. Mr. Cotton, to use a colloquialism, "cott loose" in the discussion on the same measure and imparted a few, the same measure and imparted a few, the same measure and imparted a few, the same measure and imparted as few a

had a great deal to say, his desire being that the per diem per patient allowance be increased to at least sixty cents. He eulogized the hospital and the valuable work done there, and incidentally appealed for similar recognition for the Nanaimo hospital. While not wishing the members of the government any harm, he did think that if some of them were to be inmates of the hospital the proposed grant would

Mr. McPhillips agreed with all Mr. Hel-

mcken said. Hon. Mr. Martin maintained that these things must be regarded on a business basis. Victoria had been receiving \$10,000 a year from the provincial government and the city only paid \$5,000 towards it. In Vancouver they had a hospital, of which the people were also very proud, but they cient means of giving them instruction paid \$15,000 themselves or three times the which would be of use to them and of amount received from the government. If Victorians are so proud of their hospital they should pay for it. If they expected the province to pay for it. It became a provincial affair. Victoria had been unduly favored in the past, which accounted for a jail bird as the boys. He expressed the feeling that a hardship is now being the hope that something would be done inflicted upon it. Vancouver night feel favored by this new change, but that was because that city had been harshly treated. The amount allowed by this grant was a liberal sum-3314 per cent, "more than was given in other provinces, where Mr. Helmcken followed with another eulogy of the Jubilee hospital, with which that and then Mr Helmcken followed he made bold to say there was no other

> The vote then passed. MORE MEDICAL VOTES.

Votes to aid the resident physicians in various localities were put through without discussion, except in the case of the west coast, in regard to which a little cross-firing occurred between Mr. Eberts and Mr. Neill-in which the caustic member for Alberni showed to advantage.

PRISONERS' KEEP.

The sum of \$23,000 had been set down for the purpose of providing maintenance tin explained that it was believed that sum was necessary and the government always boldly faced such a proposition.

SHERIFFS' FEES.

This item of \$2,500 led to an explanation by Mr. Eberts and the statement by Hon. on and read a second time, taken as

Mr. Helgesen (Carlboo, government) wanted to know what was going to be amount unknown to the people and with- done about the sheriff at Barkerville, who out their having an opportunity of ex- would not have enough to live on upon this basis. Mr. Martin said the govern- first time; second reading next sitting of ment could hardly be expected to pay the house. sheriff at Barkerville could not live there they would probably have some other ar rangement made, Mr. A. W. Smith wanted to know

whether Mr. Buir, the constable at Lillooet, was acting within his right by doing other work and acting as deputy to Hon. Mr. Martin said a circular had been issued to all the constables forbidding this,

FIGHTING FOR THE WEAK. "Constitutional legislation and general law costs, \$6,000," called forth an important statement from Hon. Mr. Martin to the effect that the government intends to aid were being denied the right of using and the rate of interest was a portion of water, and the prospectors on the E. & N.

rallway lands. At was proposed to fight time four per cent. all such powerful corporations who, by reason of their wealth, were taking advantage of the men without money, and to fight them at the most of the province. There might not be need of \$6,000, but it was thought well to make what seemed

ROAD SUPERINTENDENTS.

Answering Mr., Booth, Hon. Mr. Cotton explained that henceforth it is intended to make a separate charge of road superintendents' salaries instead of taking that particular public work, which would enable a better account to be kept and avoid lating to trade and other licenses," abuses which existed under the present

The work of going through the estimates was continued rapidly, occasionally varied received, the bilis read a first time and by objections from the senior and junior members for Victoria. One amusing feature of the evening was the vigoro "kick" reg'stered by Mr. Price Ellison against the small appropriation for East Yale for roads, streets and bridges, \$13,-000. Mr. Ellison said it was a big disrose, reported progress and asked leave trict, and the government agent there was n man who never asked for anything more turn of the dismissals and new appoint-Something being wrong with the electric than was absolutely necessary, a statement credulity. Mr. Ellison begged the governforth from Mr. Kellie the peculiar state- ment to take into consideration the adnent that it seemed as if the government visability of spending more money there. ing country and he had repeatedly been "stalled himself" with a heavy load. Ellison kept at the subject, even after the rote had been agreed to, trying to bring the matter up again in comparison Resuming promptly on time, Mr. Higgins with other district appropriations, resumed the chair in committee and Mr. Interest in the discussion wanted as the time went on and the press gallery was deserted, the newspaper men struggl-ing with the mass of accumulated copy. The committee dually rose at Schedule A, reported progress and asked leave to sit again, the house adjourning shortly before midnight until 2 o'clock to-morrow.

Pebruary 22, 1899. The two features of the proceedings in the house to-day were undoubtedly the speeches delivered by Hon. Mr. Cotton and Mr. Helmcken. The senior member for Victoria city has been growing being saved by the cutting off of an un-necessary salary and by there being a balance left over from the last vote. Hon, previous records, He produced some produced some printed copies of what he said was the correspondence which had taken place therefore it would be impossible for the between the government and Messrs, crown to assert its rights, but he held McKenzie & Mann, claiming that he had that the crown had a superior right to been driven to do so owing to the failing these metals, and if that question ever ure of the government to being down that came to be decided that position would was persona grata with the government by the courts in discussing matters pertains the admitted that Mr. Heincken made are most of moderately capable man, there was nothing wonderful about him thought the grant to heart the grant to be decided that position would be sustained by the courts. That was ago. The operation made the most of what the government proposed to confer by the passage of this bill, and he duction of them commenced, duite a bound the grant to go the grant to be decided that position would be sustained by the courts. That was ago. The operation made the most of what the government proposed to confer by the passage of this bill, and he duction of the grown made the grant to be decided that position would be sustained by the courts. That was ago. The operation and the grant to be sustained by the courts. That was ago. The operation made the government proposed to confer by the passage of this bill, and he duction of this bill, and he duction of the grant to be sustained by the courts. The lands embraced within the railway belt were first known and the exploitant the government proposed to confer by the passage of this bill, and he duction of this bill, and he duction of this pentile and the grant to be sustained by the courts. That was ago. The operation made the grant to be decided that position would be sustained by the courts. That was ago. The operation and the grant to be decided that position would be sustained by the courts. That was ago. The operation and the grant to be sustained by the courts. The lands embraced within the lands e

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nay, a whole lot of, useful and important truths for the benefit of the gentlemen on the opposition side. The common talk in the lobbies during the evening was that the Finance Minister's speech was one of the strongest of the session, and he received many congratulations on the excellent manner in which he laid have the skeleton of the much

It was a day of business. Early in the afternoon Hon. Mr. Martin suggested that all the second readings be taken on the order paper left over. As there were sixteen of these second readings it was apparent there was going to be a conferring great rights and privileges on could be obtained. lot of work got through—and so it proved. The house was in session seven bours, adjourning until to-morrow, at and guarantees, and stated in the act metals belong to the crown, but they thirty-five minutes before midnight. The Speaker took the chair at two clock, and prayers were read by Rural Dean Rev. W. D. Barber, The clerk of the house read the re-

urns to the writ for the election at Velson, certifying that Hon. J. Fred. Hume had been elected for that constituency. Ordered placed on the journals f the house. Mr. Hume then entered the house.

escorted by Hon, the Finance Minister tain date in the public interest. and Mr. Green, was presented to the Speaker and took his seat. PETITIONS. Mr. Green-From E. R. Atherton and

463 other citizens of Sandon asking for the consideration of the house in referto the railroad and wagon roads of that district. Ruled out of order as inthe expenditure of public monies.

REPORTS. By Mr. Ralph Smith-Report of the special committee to enquire into the grievances of the employes of the Victoria & Esquimalt Telephone Company. of hours employment per day given those

RETURNS Hon. Mr. Cotton presented a return of all correspondence between the late government and the late Sumas Dyking

SUPPLY. The house then considered the resosupply, which were severally passed up-

read a third time and duly passed. NEW BILLS By Hon. Mr. Martin-An act to amend the Summary Convictions Act. Read a

The resolution standing in Mr. Turnstitutionality of the action of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor in dismissing course was acquiesced in by the leader of the government

QUESTION AND ANSWERS. Mr. Higgins asked the Hon. Minister of Finance the following question: "The rate of interest paid on bank overdrafts during the following year: 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897 and 1898, and the total amount so paid during the said years. The Hon. Minister answered that there were no overdrafts during 1894, but in 19.889.40 at 5 per cent. powerful corporations, as, for instance, the and 1897 nothing paid named, but that settlers along the line of the C. P. R., who in 1898 there was the sum of \$5,945.02

the time five per cent. and portion of RETURNS WANTED Mr. Higgins asked when he might expect to receive the returns for which he had asked relating to the Scandinavian settlements in the northern portion of the province on the island and mainland.

Hon. Mr. Cotton said he would make enquiries on the subject. BILLS BY MESSAGE

The house then went into committee of the whole on the bills brought down amendment, providing that members for amount out of the sum set apart for any by message from His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, intituled "An Act re-"Act respecting liquor licenses." Higgins in the chair. These were reported and the

set for second reading at the next sitting of the house. ELECTIONS BILL The Provincial Elections Bill (No. 13) was read a third time and passed.

THOSE DISMISSALS. Hon. Mr. Martin, brought down a rements made by the present government. PROSPECTORS' RIGHTS.

Hon. Mr. Cotton moved the second reading of the Prospecting for Minerals on Railway Lands Bill, and said that the title of the bill explained very fully the intention of it. The matter had also been discussed on more than one occasion in the house. The object of the bill was to confer on free miners equal rights to prospect on lands belonging to railway companies that they now enjoy in regard to crown lands. In this case of certain grants to railway companies prospectors had found it difficult n following their occupation, and if not absolutely prohibited. intimations, had been given to them that they would incur serious liabilities or penalities if they continued. The government held it was the interest of the country that any rights enjoyed by the crown should be conferred on those who hold free miners certificates. The rights to the percious metals had been held to belong to the crown and the interests of the crown were available for miners and prospec tors to go on those lands and search for the precious metals. There had been a question raised, that because the precious metals were mixed with base metals,

sought to derive a revenue from them. Rossland, would have been nothing. There was no doubt that the greater only needed to point to the fact that in freedom and opportunity they gave to Clayoquot, just outside the railway belt, free miners, the greater the advanage many to the railway companies themselves.

This matter brought up, although it was not directly touched upon by the tions which apply to crown lands and bill, and therefore could not be dis- lands within the railway belt. cussed now, another question which sooner or later would have to be faced, was most necessary. Of course to thin and that was whether the province could the government would bring down as continue indefinitely to allow large tracts unnecessary measure would be to of lands to remain untaxed, because they pose them guilty of foolishness. The vaunted "railway policy" of the late ad- have been originally granted under such it was necessary was proven conditions to railway companies. This ference to an advertisement published bill must, ultimately lead to that. It by the E. & N. Railway Company was a question which had come up on local newspapers warning the publical more than one occasion in the United "trespassing" upon the lands include up and the committee stages of bills States, particularly when the Union the railway grant, and setting forth Pacific Railway was first suggested in terms upon which the necessary the '60's and congress passed an act mission to prospect for precious miner

that company, and also gave it enormous aid in the way of land grants, subsidies cision to the effect that the preci that the lands under that grant should lowed the owners of these lands not be taxable until they were alienated, sult the intelligence of the government or passed from the possession of the and of the people by publishing a noti company. That went on for a great stating they would treat as trespos many years, but after a certain time it all men who hunted for those metals. became so onerous to some of the Wes- government which would so act, dese tern States that had been carved out of ed to receive, as they did receive what was then known as the Great expression of the want of confidence American desert that great agitation the hands of the electors. sprung up, and finally congress passed an Mr. Eberts had no very great object act annulling that provision after a certion to the bill, but he had a good dea though that matter was not before the

ister that he was not quite in order.

but very likely the Minister of Finance
Mr. Booth considered that it was in would have a good idea who they were. the public interest that the matter should The president of the council had said be discussed.

although it did not come within the purview of this bill, the ultimate terms upon which they were willing to policy of this legislation might be widen- allow the prospectors to go on certain ed in that way, and he desired to point lands given to the company by the Doout the beneficial policy which this bill minion government. The junior member sought to inaugurate. Mr. Helgesen thought the bill was de-

cidedly in the public interest, and would nected with the giving away of the stating that the grievances which had receive his hearty support. It would land of Vancouver Island. At that time arisen might have been remedied by the apply, for instance, to the Cassiar Cen- there was a great deal of friction bemanagement by increasing the number tral Railroad Company, to which a tween Canada and British Columbia reland subsidy of 2,840 acres of land per garding confederation, and a commisemployes. Received and ordered printed, mile had been granted, and they had a mission was sent out here with power The report was published in to-night's right of selection over 9,000,000 acres to settle certain differences between the mile had been granted, and they had a mission was sent out here with power which were supposed to be within what two government. Among those quesis known as the great Yukon gold bear- tions were those relating to the ing belt. The company were allowed dock at Esquimalt and the railway lands to stake out their lands in lots of four on the mainland, and they being settled miles square, which gave them the right it was agreed that the Dominion govto look into every gold bearing creeks ernment would secure the building of the in this vast area, and they have sent. E. & N. railway as a part of the terms prospectors out in armies. They could of confederation, and the people hold the valuable lands thus secured, strongly in favor of the construction of lutions reported from the committee of perpetually, on free miners certificates, that road. They were willing in fact and when they had secured them, to the to give anything to see that road built. detriment of the legitimate prospector they could come back to the government and say: "Here is the charter you gave and the Settlement Act, and gave a re-

rors into which the last speaker had made not being a good one, continuing fallen. Not one acre of land in the pos- with a special pleading on behalf of the session of the Cassiar Central Railway E. & N. railway to the effect that not a Company had been kept from the miners, single prospector had ever been turned but was perfectly free to all prospectors, off the land comprised within the island er's name, calling in question the con- until the blocks were laid out, and then mineral belt. He believed there were these blocks came to the company under 2,000 stakings within that belt, and certain conditions, and no other land stated that the E. & N. Company were his late ministry stood over until toexcept that contained within these blocks not only willing but anxious to make the morrow, Mr. Turner explaining that this were closed to the prospector. And to best possible terms with the prospectors. were closed to the prospector. And to best possible terms with the prospector. he had said there were 9,000,000 acres. it was necessary that the greatest pos-That would cover a good part of the sible amount of tonnage should be securwhole district of Cassiar. As a matter ed. Reiterating the argument in regard of fact, the total grant when they com- to the necessity of observing the pleted the railway would not have ex- of "a solmen contract" being carried out. ceeded 800,000 acres. The hon, gentle- Mr. Eberts emphasised the statement man was so grievously wrong that he that the grant of land given to the rail-

> possibly amount to 1,000,000 acres. As to the other matters touched on by the hon. introducer of the bill, he pectors to go on the lands to prospect felt doubtful whether it gave to the prospector any more right than he at present possesses. If it did, he had no objection to that, but he thought that prospectors could go on to any private lands by paying for any damage done. All lands were open to the licensed min- Alberni during the election campaign

ber (Mr. Helgesen). Mr. Helgesen still maintained that his five years. statement as to the railroad having the right of selection over 9,000,000 acres of now? and was a correct one.

Mr. Neill said that the measure was of so much importance to his constitusilent vote. He congratulated the gov- time they could not find enough to make ernment on the introduction of this it pay they need not pay anything. He measure, although he was sorry it did not go further, but took the statement. of the hon, Finance Minister that it is been in his seat, confirm that statement. going further in the future. The hon. And, moreover, if the prospector having unior member for Victoria had said that secured his claim found that at the end he did not know any difference between of a certain time found he could not railway lands and crown lands, and the speaker was surprised to hear the ex-Premier say that if this bill gave the assist him in prosecuting the necessary prospectors more rights than they had before, he was not aware of it. If hon. members would spend a week or ten days in Alberni they would know the difference. If they consulted with the hon, member for Comox he would tell cases in which the company had done so, them what that difference was. He (Mr. Neill) would point out one difference in the railway belts in his district. In the from this source. He cited a case at case of the railway belts a man goes and prospects and as soon as he had located claim he had to go to the office of the ing company and had been afterwards E. & N. railway and pay a deposit of told by the manager of the company that \$125 as soon as he had recorded his the help rendered by them had been most claim, the balance of a further sum of acceptable. Mr. Eberts concluded by re-\$125 being payable in six and twelve months, for which sum he receives the surface rights and the permission to where a prospector had been turned off work the claim. It can easily be seen what a terrible burden it is to a poor man to have to pay the amount of \$125 and guarantee the payment of a further sum of \$125, when the claim, after he has got it, may not be worth the \$2.50 he paid for recording it. On the or behalf of the E. & N. Railway Comcontrary on crown lands, by doing the required assessment work, he can hold the claim as long as he likes, and if the memorable Alberni terestant the E. & N he wishes the surface wishe wishes the surface right he pays \$5 an acre, but is not required to pay that sum for the whole of his claim but for only such portions as may be required for the buildings and necessary works, etc., of the mine. Again, the owners of the land within the railway belt says: "You may go

and have the gold and silver but don't said he had favored for a long time the touch my copper unless you pay me for it at the rate of so much a ton." Some years ago, when the mineral wealth in was inaugurated in the district, and had they shall not do Telegrams and state the prospectors being allowed to comments quoted had nothing to do with time their work uninterruptedly an era the bill. Any citizen, he believed, hal Mr. was big pay for the work attached to Mr. Cotton quite willing to oblige hint. Helmorken indulged in what was called was also quite sure, in the interest of the position. Col. Baker had made an The increased estimate for that institution in the railway companies themselves, all the railway companies themselves, all document from beginning to end and about the railway companies themselves, all document from beginning to end and a south the railway companies themselves, all the railway companies themselves, all document from beginning to end and a south the railway companies themselves, all the railway companies themselves, all all with which the city represent the Privy Council. He had had as

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claims are being taken up, and yet the hon, members say they cannot see any difference between the

Hon. Dr. McKechnie believed the bill

The late government obtained

of objection to some of the ridiculous remarks of certain members other side of the house. He did The Speaker reminded the Hon. Min- wish to specify to whom he referred the late government was without dignity Hon. Mr. Cotton, continuing, said that because they had not resented a cer tain notice by which they made certain for Esquimalt could perhaps tell the house some of the circumstances con-

Mr. Eberts then went into a long dissertation regarding the Clements Bill is, we don't want to build the road," sume of the arguments used so often in Mr. Turner desired to correct the er- regard to the possibility of the bargain how wrong the hon, member was, as to further the interests of the railway could not help rising to correct him, but way company had been so given by the

if he simply figured out the length of the Dominion government. line he would find that it would not He believed this was a harmless act, d believed that the company was quit willing to allow all thousands of prosand to help them in every way possible. (Mr. Neill. "No."

Mr. Eberts said he would not make a statement like that unless he believed it to be actually true. He referred to a telegram he had read at a meeting i He would not have referred to this which stated that prospectors might go bill but for the error of the hon, mem- on the lands within the railway belt and extend the payments over a period of

Mr. Neill-Where are those telegrams

Mr. Eberts made no answer to the question, but proceeding, said prosper tors need not have paid anything until was sure that the hon, member Comox (Mr. Dunsmuir) would, had he continue the necessary development work, the company would be willing to owrk, if he considered the claim was such as was to guarantee further work being done.

"No," from Mr. Neill Mr. Eberts retorted that he knew and said he was assured that the company had not received more than \$150 Chemainus where the assistance had been rendered by the company to a minpeating the statement that he did believe a single case could be found the land and that the company were es tremely anxious that prospectors should go and discover properties that would be of value to the railway company, for

transportation purposes only. Mr. Bryden N. Nanaimo, opp.) spoke pany. He cited the terms contained in the memorable Alberni telegram and re-Railway, said that the late Mr. Robert Dunsmuir had been told by his friends that he would be ruined if he carried out the scheme of building railroad. Mr. Bryden said it have been a good thing for Mr. Dunsmuir if he never had built the road, an appointment of a commission into the administration of the lands within the railway belt.

Mr. Higgins maintained that the E. & N. Co. had no right to dictate to free miners what they shall do and what

much to do with the carrying negotiations which led to Dunsmuir carrying out the of the road as any man in the and he believed that if the been properly administered would have been to the inte people of the province. But prospectors, men whose work and beneficially if it were ca without let or hindrance. treated as trespassers. On the of the line trespassers were re people to whom it was advisab shotgun.

Hon. Mr. Martin said he sup House could accept the statement member for North Nanaimo as ment of the views held by the Railway Company. He did no refer to the past policy of that for after all, what had to be co was the future, and he had b pleased to hear the remarks of per for North Nananimo and agi the gentleman that it was in interests of the E. & N. Railw pany to afford every facility nectors and also to allow then the land. That being the case, l ed there would be no difficulty ing the bill, and that the latter protecting the interests of the pr would never have to be made He believed the result would be one for the E. & N. Company the people of the Island. He m say for the government, becau vere not looking for trouble, a be only too happy if the matt itself out in the best way.

Mr. Booth, as a personal frien late Robert Dunsmuir corrobo had been said by Mr. Bryd Dunsmuir never wanted to e bargain, and would not have but for the pressure brought upon him. He wanted the ights, the surface rights would induced him to take the offer was after the coal. Mr. Booth e believed the E. & N. Railwa pany were now prepared to gi pectors better terms because n the idea that every prospect v million had passed away, t repared to deal more liberally those prospects.

Mr. Helmcken gave the bill hi support. He had recently had to go into the matter of these la thoroughly, and believed that oany, speaking for himself as vidual in this particular case, we liberally with prospectors. Mr. Ralph Smith pointed out

whole difficulty in regard to free in the E. & N. Railway belt as of the publication of the notice to by the president of the counc member for North Nanaimo ha that the company were willing fairly with prospectors, but speaker) would ask the hon, sen ber for Victoria whether the pul of the notice referred to by the of the council was not calcu weaken the confidence of th The action of the company in had not been such as to lead to lief that the company would fair and liberal treatment to pector. He urged strongly th drawal of the notice referred hon, president of the council.

The bill received its second

in due course without a divisi ROSSLAND RUSTLING At the request of Hon. Mr. Ma rules of the House were suspe of the introduct able the city council of Rossland row \$150,000 for water works tric light purposes. Hon. Mr. Clauses Act a limit was placed borrowing capacity of the town. the works here proposed to be were remunerative, the position different. The reason for bring bill in at this late hour was the fact that the municipalit nized the importance of makin tional provisions to protect the of the city, and he thought the vould agree that where in like this towns grew so quickly advisable to occasionally depart ordinary rules of procedure. also mention that the council unable until very recently to o the circumstances he thought the would have no objection to the r

for the next sitting of the House LAND ACT. Hon. Mr. Semlin moved the reading of the bill to amend the Act, and in doing so said that t provided for some slight change gard to the sale and leasing o The provision in the present act pre-emptor should clear ten act fore able to take out his crown had not worked well in the wooded parts of the province, was intended to change this. The bill was read a second tim Kellie saying that he wished to see

ing suspended and the bill intro

The rules were suspended, the

first time, and the second read

slight changes made in committee LEGAL PROFESSIONS BIL The third reading of the Lega essions Bill, introduced by the Ho Attorney-General, was read a third nd passed. REMEDYING PAST BLUND

Hon. Mr. Martin moved the eading of the bill providing for eal of certain railroad subsidies. ong so said that the bill was int repeal certain subsidies of las ash granted by statutes of the pr companies on conditions in reg ailway construction which had no emplied with. The first section all referred to a clause in the a n amendment would have to be m mmittee. It was not intended to fere **in any** way with any con whic**h had act**ed upon the statu nstructing the road. He had ked the fact the grant of the uthern had originally been giv e Crow's Nest Pass & Kootena The Ashcroft & Cariboo, an Oka ad and the C. P. R. (Farwell) vould be seen that the statute m many other subsidy acts i

subsidy is given by the act these railways, but that the ernor in Council is authorit rant a subsidy. No subsidy ha ranted to any of these roads an posed to take away from the vernor that power.

There had been granted subsid