

Provincial Legislature

Budget Debate Continues to Engage Attention of the Members.

Oliver Wants Enquiry Into Suspect's Claims

Minister Invites Investigation—Shows Suspicion Were Unwarranted

Friday, March 31.
THE House opened at 2 o'clock with the session being resumed after the adjournment of the previous day. The order of business was as follows:

Questions of Privilege
Mr. Cameron directed attention to a newspaper report that he had been disqualified through a breach of the Independence of Parliament Act, saying that he had taken legal advice on the subject and that such was not the case. He had had no transaction with the government in any shape or form in the way of supplying goods or services. He had had no transaction with the government in any shape or form in the way of supplying goods or services. He had had no transaction with the government in any shape or form in the way of supplying goods or services.

New Bills Introduced

The Attorney-General introduced a bill to amend the Trustee and Executors Act, also an act to regulate immigration into British Columbia.
Dr. Young introduced a bill to amend the Medical Act.
Hon. Mr. Fulton introduced a bill to amend the Royal Columbian Hospital Act.
Mr. J. A. Macdonald introduced a bill to amend the Coal Mines Act.

Questions and Answers

Mr. Williams asked: What portion of vote No. 150 of the session of 1903-4 has been spent in the following electoral districts: Esquimalt, Cowichan, Nanaimo, Nanaimo, Alberni, and Comox respectively?
Hon. Mr. Green replied: Esquimalt division, \$571.52; Cowichan division, \$712.85; Nanaimo division, \$425.00; Nanaimo division, \$1,175.72; Alberni division, \$445.07; Comox division, \$794.24.
Mr. McInnes asked: Will the government receive and allow applications for a pre-empt land located within the limits of the Quatsino Power and Pulp Co. Ltd., concession?
Hon. Mr. Green replied: "Yes, if the written consent of the company is obtained by the applicant."

The Budget Debate

Mr. Oliver complimented Hon. Mr. Tatlow upon his presentation of the budget. At the same time he was not prepared to admit that he (Tatlow) had

been a conspicuous success as Finance Minister. He denied that there had been any suggestion from the Opposition side that there had been a "cooking" of accounts. The expenditure in 1903-4, he stated, had not been carried forward in the public accounts, and that had it been carried forward, instead of a surplus of \$27,000, there would have been a deficit of \$30,000. There was no virtue in the fact that provincial securities stood high, as they had but shared in an improvement which was general in this respect. Even municipal securities in the province were quoted in the London market at a premium of 2 per cent. This justified the position taken by the Opposition last year that a new loan could be advantageously floated to retire the temporary loans outstanding. Had this been done the government could have got par for four per cent. debenture instead of getting par for a five per cent. debenture. With reference to the taxation question, he took the ground that if the government had been amenable to reason in framing the Assessment Act of last year, the subsequent disturbance of conditions and the enquiry by uncommissioned respecting it would have been unnecessary. He stated that the government had not the country had compelled the government to modify that bill. Referring to the million dollar loan, he stated that on June 30 last there were over \$500,000 of this money lying on current account, without interest in the hands of the Comptroller.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow said this was a mistake. All the money on current account in the Canadian Bank of Commerce was earning 3 per cent. interest on current account in the bank, while the five per cent. interest on a bank overdraft. The Attorney-General had been elected leader of the Conservative party and yet had accepted a subordinate position in the government of Mr. McBride. He stated that the government had been engaged in connection with the New West-India Land Company, and that the action of the government in refusing to allow the matter to be settled by the courts. He questioned the advantage of questioning the case. His services with the government terminated previous to his nomination.

Mr. Oliver suggested a discussion by questioning the case. He stated that he had received pay for time extending beyond nomination day, but was called to order by the speaker. He stated that the matter, being one of privilege, was not debatable.

With reference to the map spoken of, this was a matter which could be very easily explained. As the Attorney-General (Mr. Oliver) must know perfectly well, it would be impossible to furnish an official map of unreserved lands. In fact there was no such thing. Surveys were not made for timber licenses. As for the cause of the complaint it did not particularly attach to any individual. It was something which had been going on for years. One of the civil servants had been keeping a list of the names of the position of lands held by timber licensees or land purchasers. He stated that he had been instructed to give information to the public, and that he had been instructed to give information to the public, and that he had been instructed to give information to the public.

Referring to the exchange of Crown lands in the Burnaby district for lands in the Cowichan district for an asylum farm, he contended that such exchange was unauthorized, and contrary to the provisions of the Public Lands Act. He stated that the government had been instructed to give information to the public, and that he had been instructed to give information to the public, and that he had been instructed to give information to the public.

As to the lands at Kitimat he was quite prepared to admit that error seemed probable. He would not say that any official in the department had exercised his power in making the exchange had been committed had not been in any way the fault of the government, because as a matter of fact it was impossible for the department to know the position of lands held by timber licensees or land purchasers. He stated that he had been instructed to give information to the public, and that he had been instructed to give information to the public, and that he had been instructed to give information to the public.

applications were consistently reserved. In 1890 the government issued a reserve embracing the lands in question on either side of Kitimat arm and river. Nevertheless the government had issued Crown grants for lands in question on either side of Kitimat despite the statute law of the province. These lands today had large prospective value. The government were eagerly sought for. The government for the purpose of dealing with them had reserved securities which had been refused and disposed of years ago. He asserted that a Crown grant had been issued for some 127 acres of these lands, but not to the person who originally applied for them. In order to have the whole matter gone into carefully, he intimated his intention to move for a committee of enquiry.

Minister Replies
Hon. Mr. Green rose and intimated his desire to make an explanation with reference to matters affecting his department. The Speaker said he would forfeit his right to speak on the budget debate by so doing.

Hon. Mr. Green said he was willing in this respect to depend upon the decision of the House. In regard to the enquiry suggested by the member for Delta, the government had nothing to hide. They had already said before the House practically all the information that was in the matter. It was true that on two or three occasions during the session he had been informed that certain irregularities had been going on in the department of Lands and Works in connection with these particular lands. As soon as this information reached him he had issued instructions to prevent any recurrence of such irregularities which were of a purely departmental nature, and to have a full investigation. To this end he had directed that every document of correspondence and explanations connected therewith be laid before him, and although the matter was being thoroughly gone into, owing to the engagement of sessional work, the matter was not yet ready for presentation to be taken up. While it was not yet ready for presentation, he stated that some person in the department had exceeded instructions, the government had nothing to fear in this regard. He stated that a member of the government he was quite willing, if it was thought that the special inquiry should be held, to be joined with honorable gentlemen opposite in having the matter thoroughly explored, either by a committee of the House or in any way in which the Legislature should desire.

Mr. Murphy on Monday next will ask: Has a pulp lease been granted to the Quatsino Power and Pulp Co. of Victoria? 2. If so, what is the date of said lease, the acreage covered by same, and the name of the lessee? 3. In order of the terms of said lease a pulp or paper mill shall be erected on the leased premises and operated so many months in each year as may be specified in the lease? 4. If not, is it the intention of the government to cancel said lease?

Notices for Monday

Mr. Oliver on Monday next will move that a select committee of five members of this House, consisting of Messrs. Macgowan, Brown, Brown, and Brown, be appointed to inquire into all matters pertaining to the issuing of timber licenses by the department of Lands and Works since 1878-1879, 1881-1882, 1883-1884, 1885-1886, 1887-1888, 1889-1890, 1891-1892, 1893-1894, 1895-1896, 1897-1898, 1899-1900, 1901-1902, 1903-1904, 1905-1906, and all matters in reference to pending applications, with a view to ascertaining the facts and documents and to take evidence under oath, and to report the evidence and their findings to the House.

tations at least, of which he was a member, had met with an encouraging reception. The governor, Field Marshal Sir George Stuart White, and his staff, immediately went on board the Hamburg and welcomed his majesty. Owing to the lateness of his arrival, Emperor William decided to omit the drive through the town, which had been arranged for the afternoon.

At 6 p. m. the Emperor landed, and was received by the German consul and the British minister. The Emperor, the York-shire infantry and the Musgrave Fusiliers which were drawn up at The Convent, the official residence of the commander-in-chief, were met by the governor, the dinner party to sixty guests in honor of the Emperor, with a garden party and reception afterwards.

Delance's Significant Pronouncement
Paris, March 31.—Foreign Minister Delance made a significant speech in the senate today, which evidently was intended to meet questions arising in connection with the visit of Emperor William today to Tangier. The minister intimated that the Sultan's declaration that "resistance in interested quarters would not cause France to modify her policy," brought out vigorous applause.

A Special Standing
In Morocco. The Anglo-French record of the government to assist in opening Morocco to civilization and also that from an economic point of view all nations have an equal footing. The Quatsino Power and Pulp Co. of Victoria? 2. If so, what is the date of said lease, the acreage covered by same, and the name of the lessee? 3. In order of the terms of said lease a pulp or paper mill shall be erected on the leased premises and operated so many months in each year as may be specified in the lease? 4. If not, is it the intention of the government to cancel said lease?

The Kaiser At Tangier

German Royalty Makes But a Hurried Visit to the Moroccan Capital.
Fears of Anarchist Violence Suggested as Probable Explanation.
Gibraltar Has Honor of Entertaining—M. Delance's Significant Speech.

ANGIER, March 31.—Emperor William of Germany paid a flying visit to Tangier today, returning to Gibraltar on the same day. The elaborate preparations for his reception and entertainment were being made by the German legation, where he received deputations of Germans in Morocco. The changed plans caused much comment and disappointment. The Emperor had been expected to land about 8 o'clock, but this was delayed by a heavy fog. Count Von Tattenbach Ashold, former German minister to Morocco, returned to the Hamburg before the Emperor landed.

Disastrous Fire at Chatham—Hon. A. G. MacKay Injured.

Chatham, Ont., March 31.—Fire this morning destroyed two business blocks owned by Jahnkes and W. S. Richards and occupied by Jahnkes & Sons, undertakers; S. W. Watson, hardware; H. Paterson, hardware; A. H. Vongunten, jeweler; and W. S. Richards, confectioner and baker. The loss is placed at \$44,000, partially covered by insurance. William Jahnkes, who had returned from Detroit on an early train, was in the city at the time of the fire. He is reported to have lived over the stores occupied by his firm and W. S. Richards, and in attempting to arouse them was overtaken by smoke, falling in a serious condition. The family escaped by jumping from the windows.

Canadian Coin for Japan

Montreal, March 31.—The Bank of Montreal announces that the Canadian subscriptions to the new Japanese loan amount to \$4,500,000.

Direct Bond Issue

Toronto, March 31.—The Ontario government has definitely decided upon a direct provincial issue of bonds for \$6,000,000, to meet the loan arranged by the Ontario government in London, and converted for some time. Deputations from the German residents and leading Moslems were present at the Emperor's reception. The Germans delivered to his majesty an address of welcome.

Address of Welcome

How many women are troubled with a weak heart? How many lie, night after night, trying to sleep, and can't? Perhaps you are one of them? If so, read what Mrs. Herkimer says. It may save you years of suffering if you take her advice.

fleet and land stations were dressed with bunting in honor of the imperial visitors. The governor, Field Marshal Sir George Stuart White, and his staff, immediately went on board the Hamburg and welcomed his majesty. Owing to the lateness of his arrival, Emperor William decided to omit the drive through the town, which had been arranged for the afternoon.

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Dare Not Meet The People

Appointment of the New Interior Minister Postponed Until After Session.

Opposition Brings Government to Defensive—Ministerial Discomfort.

Scott of Assinibola Accepts the Pill for the Sake of the Jelly.

OTTAWA, March 31.—(Special)—For some time past the government has been in a defensive position, and the attention was directed to the ministerial action of the government in leaving vacant portfolios unfilled, especially at a time when in one case it was held to be absolutely essential that a minister should be appointed, the most important question that has ever come before parliament and affecting the great western country, being now under consideration. The government being placed in the peculiar position of being unable to appeal to the direct representative of that section of Canada in the cabinet.

Messrs. Borden, Foster, Hughes, Sprule, Stockton, Bennett and others were present. The government was in a defensive position, and the attention was directed to the ministerial action of the government in leaving vacant portfolios unfilled, especially at a time when in one case it was held to be absolutely essential that a minister should be appointed, the most important question that has ever come before parliament and affecting the great western country, being now under consideration. The government being placed in the peculiar position of being unable to appeal to the direct representative of that section of Canada in the cabinet.

FORFEITS ITS CONTRACT.

Caracas, March 31.—President Arana, of the highest court, today decided that the French Cable Company has forfeited its contract by failure to fulfill its terms, and he decided against the company in the act of forfeiture, resulting from the company's acts. Five days are allowed the company to appeal, but not for consideration by the entire court, whose decision is final.

AN HABITUAL CRIMINAL.

New York, March 31.—John Murphy, who held up Mr. and Mrs. John W. Conish in front of their home in the Bronx about a month ago, and robbed Mrs. Conish of \$200, was sentenced to a term of fifteen years. Recorder Geoff declared Murphy to be a habitual criminal, which means that if he ever escapes, he will be liable to arrest him anywhere or any time they please, whether they know he has committed a crime or not.

SANITY IS QUESTIONED.

Rousseau's Dynamiting Devices May Have Been Merely Imagined.
New York, March 31.—Gessler Rousseau, the dynamiter who was convicted of sending an infernal machine to the Cunard line steamer Umbria, and who also confessed to having attempted to blow up the statue of Frederick the Great at Washington, was not sentenced today. Instead, when he appeared before Recorder Goff in the Court of General Sessions, sentence was indefinitely postponed until after the prisoner has been examined at length by the recorder. When Rousseau's case was called, his attorney presented an affidavit questioning the prisoner's sanity, and asked that a commission be appointed to examine him.

DOMINICAN FINANCIAL PLAN.

San Domingo, March 31.—The proposition of San Domingo for the payment of foreign creditors of the republic, as finally revised, is being considered by the government of 45 per cent of the customs revenues for current expenses, the remaining 55 per cent to be deposited in a bank in the United States for the creditors, and to remain in such deposit until the American senate and Dominican congress accept the San-Sanchez convention; then if the government is satisfied, the money on deposit is to be paid to creditors in fair proportions, but if the convention is rejected, the money shall be handed over to the Dominican government for the payment of five of the prisoners accused of conspiracy. Nine of the jurors were in favor of acquittal and three for conviction. The accused will be committed to jail and the trial fixed for the June term.

STATISTICS ABOUT THE WEST.

We find in some recent blue books figures concerning the grain growing districts of the west of Canada which will interest our readers. For example, by the last report of the department of trade and commerce we learn that the total number of cars of wheat inspected at Winnipeg in 1903 was 38,474, containing 49,396,650 bushels. In 1902 the figures were 51,833 cars and 51,832,000 bushels, and in 1900, 14,862 cars and only 16,980 bushels. The total number of cars was 1,120, containing 1,683,000 bushels in 1903, 2,236 cars with 1,059,000 bushels in 1902, and 468 cars with 537,000 bushels in 1900. The contrast of these figures help to show the preponderance of grain in our Western grain growing district.

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