British Bluffed Them

Mason Favors Fight-If U. S. Do Not Get Territory.

k Over the Delimitation The Modus Vivendi Boundary.

g to news brought by the mur which arrived yesterday Senator "Billy" Mason, who Illinois in the United States d is remarkable for his pro- pro-Filipino resolutions, has t Skagway in company with . O. Spaulding, first assistant- of the United States treasury, venue cutter Grant, and there und another unfortunate "peo- re struggling for freedom." He een inspecting the line, mounds markers of the site of the vendi boundary—and more con- to "hot air" are promised with acious greed of the Britishers grabe of the United States ter- a text

nator in an interview given to ay Alaskan, said:

having studied the matter of the sed on Alaska by the govern- am of the decided opinion it is ge. It is unjust in the eyes of stitution, and it is a parallel to t injustice which brought on of the American revolution. In rds it is taxation without repre- . My eyes have been opened, and ready to fight for the cause injustly taxed American citizens ka. I shall fight the cause in

t to be well acquainted with the question. I visited the present at the summit of White Pass nd will leave to-morrow for the e country, back of Haines, shall remain several days. I am avor of yielding an inch of what tuily American territory to the I want every foot of land ten leagues from the shore of the d in the disputed territory for ted States, and I favor fighting not get it.

British have bluffed us. They llowed the policy of seizing a paf when they expect to get only in the outcome. They are the st traders and the sharpest inter- dealers in the world. Their in this case are nothing new. sked for more than they expected

a Republican and expect to go stump in the East in a month for ley and Roosevelt, and I am in ay with the cabinet members with eption—and that is Secretary of Hay. He is too much of a British- nnesofte gives him a dinner and on. It is Hay who is responsible Americans losing the grip on the of American territory in this dis- area. Hay is unfit for anything. t to maintaining a British official ng Mr. Hay) at the expense of our ment

1888, when the contention arose e boundary the British printed all maps showing the boundary to be summit of the mountains. Now ould have it run to tidewater. The ssian boundary ran where we con- should remain."

MANY ARRESTED.

two Suspects Seized by the Italian Police.

e, Aug. 7.—Altogether 52 suspect- archists have been placed under within the last 36 hours.

ated that King Victor Em- el intends to meet the remains of te king at the railway station on arrival here, and to follow them on with the princes to the pantheon. Monsea telegram to the Tribuna

"Apparently Bresci's accomplices several. After his arrest cries of hing go' were heard, and while the 's carriage was being driven to the villa an unknown man replied to ral Ponzio Vaglia, minister for the household, who asked where the sin was, 'There is no assassin.' over, cast-off workmen's clothing, ently intended for purposes of dis- have been found.

hong the persons arrested are cois Niccolirietia and Salvatore onne Caset, from Paterson, N. J.

GOLD SHIPMENTS.

ro Million Dollars Sent to London.

w York, Aug. 7.—Baring, Magoun o. have arranged to ship $2,000,000 old to London to-morrow. A repre- ative of the firm explains that a of this shipment is to meet the re- ement for deposits of 5 per cent. of cription for the new British bonds. a part of the shipment also is for liar exchange operations.

PROHIBITED.

Arms Nor Ammunition Can Be Shipped to China.

ondon, Aug. 7.—In accordance with recently passed bill, the Gazette to- t proclaims the prohibition of ex- t of arms and ammunition to China n to-day.

SALMON PLENTIFUL.

hces On the Fraser Now Reported Fair.

m Our Own Correspondent.

ancouver, Aug. 7.—Salmon are jump- freely in the Gulf this morning, and catches in the traps show that a big ool of salmon is likely to strike the aser river to-morrow. The catch was orted fair last night, the boats running m 25 to 100.

Mrs. Rives, wife of J. T. Rives, man- r of the Toronto, Lillooet Gold Reef operties at Lillooet, died yesterday at Paul's hospital.

Some two years ago an Irish girl med Christena Rielly married a China- n in Vancouver. Christena's friends diculed her so that she left her husband. esterday the Chinaman hunted her up. d on her refusal to go with him, he ruck her on the head with an axe. The oman may die. The Chinaman has en arrested for assault with intent to urder.

Ministers, Lawyers, Teachers and others hose occupation gives but little exercise, ould use Carter's Little Liver Pills for rpid liver and billousness. One is a dose. y them.

Earl Li Says No!

Absolutely Impossible to Allow Allies to Escort Ministers From Pekin.

Despatches as to Details of Sunday's Battle Described As Hearsay.

Rumor that Japanese and Russians Have Come in Collision.

London, Aug. 8.—(3:45 a.m.)—"In case the troops advance, the Chinese must fight. The suggestion that the allies should be allowed to enter Pekin, in order to escort the ministers to Tien Tsin is absolutely impossible." This is the dictum of Li Hung Chang. It was transmitted last evening to William Pritchard Morgan, member of parliament for Merthyr, Tydvil, by his agent at Shanghai. The agent had carried to Earl Li a message from Mr. Morgan urging that the allied troops be allowed to enter the capital, and stating that a settlement could be made at Tien Tsin, whereby a war of the world against China will be averted, but even the optimistic Li failed to hold out the slightest hope of its feasibility. Although he reiterated to Mr. Morgan's agent his declaration that the ministers had left Pekin, fixing the date of their departure as August 2, the agent makes this comment: "The consuls are without confirmation."

These messages have been sent to Lord Salisbury, accompanied by a statement by Mr. Morgan, urging that the allies should take no step to endanger the lives of the ministers.

A message from the Belgian minister, dated Pekin, August 2, seems effectually to dispose of the rumors that the ministers have either left or are intending to leave Pekin.

The Chinese minister in London, Sir Chi Chen Lo Feng, says he has received a telegram from China announcing that a long imperial edict had been issued on August 2, authorizing the immediate and safe conveyance of all Europeans in Pekin to Tien Tsin. Several despatches are printed giving hearsay accounts of Sunday's battle.

The Daily Mail correspondent at Chee Foo, telegraphing Monday, says: "The fighting lasted seven hours, and the allies, when my report left, were pursuing the Chinese, but owing to the floods, progress was difficult.

"Thus the Chinese will have time to reform, and to recover from the effects of the battle. Only a small garrison with fourteen guns remains at Tien Tsin, where some anxiety is felt because of a report that five thousand Chinese are said to be moving two days' march to the southeast."

All the reports agree in praising the bravery and organization of the Japanese.

Li Ping Heng, according to the Shanghai correspondent of the Standard, has been appointed generalissimo of the Chinese forces and left Pekin to command the troops outside the city.

A Shanghai special says that official advices from Tokio announce that armed collisions have occurred between parties of Russians and Japanese outside Taku. This, however, as it comes by way of Shanghai, must await confirmation before being credited.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Mail, confirming the massacre of missionaries at Chu Chow Fu, says that two American women were among the victims.

The Sebastopol correspondent of the Daily Graphic asserts that the Russian government will send 125,000 additional troops from Odessa to the Far East before the end of the year.

Berlin despatches say it is rumored that an agreement has been reached by Emperor Nicholas and Emperor William, whereby the German troops will be permitted to proceed to China by the way of Siberia.

The royal arsenal at Woolwich has been ordered to send 30,000,000 rounds of small ammunition to China.

London, Aug. 7.—A special despatch from Shanghai dated to-day says: "It is reported that heavy fighting took place last Sunday east of Pei Tsang, the allies losing 400, of whom 65 were British. The Japanese artillery did splendid service in the face of a galling Chinese cross-fire, under which they lost heavily.

"The Chinese were forced to retreat, but saved their guns. Their rear guard was attacked and practically decimated."

Washington, Aug. 7.—The following telegram from Minister Conger was received to-night by the state department:

"Tsin Nan Yamen, Aug. 7.—Still besieged. Situation more precarious.

"Chinese government insisting upon our leaving Pekin, which would be certain death.

"Rifle firing upon us daily by imperial troops.

"Have abundant courage, but little ammunition or provisions. Two progressive yamen ministers have been beheaded. All connected with the legation of the United States are well at the present moment. (Signed) Conger."

The information which came to-day that United States troops were engaged in the battle at Pei Tsang established positively for the first time that, notwithstanding the difficulties which Gen. Chaffee had encountered in debarking troops and supplies, at least a part—and a considerable part—of the United States force was in the forward movement. Gen. Chaffee's despatch to the war department conveyed the most satisfactory evidence that the commanders had thoroughly agreed in advance upon a plan of action, and that there is every indication that this plan had been followed, as Gen. Chaffee on Friday sent the cable saying the attack upon the Chinese at Pei Tsang would be made on Sunday, the day when Admiral Remey and the press correspondents say the fighting occurred.

The most positive addition to the news of the day was the brief line from the Associated Press correspondent at Tien Tsin, stating that the 9th and 14th infantry, Reed's battery and the marines were in the battle at Pei Tsang on Friday. It is perhaps noteworthy and significant that in the plan of attack upon the enemy at Pei Tsang, the British, United States and Japanese forces joined in the movement to turn the enemy's right flank, while the Russians and French operated together on the opposite side of the river against the enemy's left. This may indicate the line of cleavage among the allies.

It is also exceedingly significant that Gen. Chaffee does not mention the German force at all. The war department officials do not believe that this could have been due to an oversight on his part, if it was arranged that they were to participate in the movement. It therefore seems likely that the Germans were not engaged at Pei Tsang. It is thought possible that they may be acting independently.

Another cablegram came to the state department late this afternoon from Minister Conger at Pekin—the second that has been received from him since June 12. It is the first which has come direct from the minister since the above date, the other having been received through the Chinese minister here. To-day's telegram shows that the situation in the Chinese capital is still of a very serious character. So important were the statements contained in the despatch that a conference was held by wire between several of the officials here and the President at Canton, lasting for several hours. At its conclusion the cablegram was made public.

Brussels, Aug. 7.—The minister of foreign affairs has received the following message from the Belgian minister at Pekin:

"Pekin, Aug. 7.—We succeeded in defending our legation from June 4 to June 16 with the aid of eight Austrian marines, but were unable to save it. The Austrian, Dutch and Italian legations were also burned and the French legation is in ruins.

"All foreigners are at the British legation, where they have been besieged by the Chinese troops since June 20. Up to the present 58 marines have been killed and 70 wounded. The attack has ceased since July 17. Provisions are almost exhausted.

"We hope to be delivered next week. All the Belgians here are well."

Shanghai, Aug. 7.—The Japanese consul here received by wire to-day a message to the effect that the foreign ministers at Pekin were safe August 1, but that they expected a renewal of the attack by the Chinese at any moment. It was added that only 25 cartridges each and six days' provisions were left. It was also said that the Japanese secretary had died of his wounds.

A TALK ON ABORICULTURE

Sir Henri Joly on Planting of Trees and Their After Care.

Owing to the interest taken in the valuable address given by Sir Henry Joly on Monday night before the Natural History Society, the following synopsis of his address is published:

Speaking of the planting and the after care of trees, Sir Henri Joly drew special attention to the importance of certain rules to be observed both in planting and in pruning.

In planting a tree, he considered that it was of the greatest importance to trim every root carefully, removing every torn and injured part. Roots properly trimmed, with a sharp knife, so as to make a clean cut, will soon set out a regular ring of rootlets round the cut, between the wood and the bark, and these rootlets will begin in some time their work of conveying food to the tree, while no rootlets, or only a few useless ones will form slowly at the broken and torn end of a root.

He has often experimented on young trees, especially black walnuts, say up to six or seven years, generally younger, but in several cases older than that, before replanting them. At first he used to work very hard to take up as many roots and as long and with as big a ball of undisturbed earth as possible. After a time he found out that he was more successful, and with much less trouble and expense, in not mindlessly at all the ball of earth, in cutting the roots much nearer to the stem and in trimming the ends carefully. The moment one does not take up the entire length of the roots, which is not practical with tap root trees and trees of any size, the question is how much of the length of the root must be preserved to insure successful growth. He tried repeatedly, reducing gradually the length of the roots, and was surprised to see how much shortening they could stand. Of course, the tree must be staked until it has well taken, as the long roots, whose purpose is to anchor it firmly to the ground, have been cut off.

As for the after care of the tree, and the pruning, which becomes necessary, especially when the tree grows in the open and not in the forest, he considered that when branches had to be removed, they must be cut off quite close to the trunk, so as to give a chance to the new bark to cover the wound as quickly as possible.

If for fear of making too large a wound, or from carelessness, and to avoid trouble, part of the branch is left sticking out on the tree, as we see in too many cases, the bark will never be able to cover and protect against the weather the stump so left, before it begins to decay. As that branch takes its origin inside the tree, when it decays it will carry down the decay to the very heart of the tree and kill it.

He showed a series of photographs representing close pruning and following through the successive stages of gradual healing, until the wound was quite covered, and then cross-sections of the pruning showed the wood quite sound underneath. Then came samples of bad pruning, where stumps of branches were allowed to remain sticking out, exposed to the weather; the photographs showed clearly how these stumps had begun to decay, how the decay worked its way to the very heart of the tree, with its unavoidable result—death.

Railway Committee.—The railway committee of the board of trade met yesterday, with Mr. J. A. Mara in the chair. Mr. H. P. Bell was present and showed maps explanatory of a short line from Victoria and Vancouver to the interior; and Mr. Anderson, of the Similkameen Star, told of a new pass through the Hope mountains. A letter was read from Dr. Milne, stating that if a subsidy was granted the V. V. & E., construction would be proceeded with at once.

Fire at Old Customs House.—At 3 o'clock on Sunday morning fire was discovered by Sergeant Redgrave and Officer Carlow in the old customs house building on Wharf street. Box 23 was turned in and the brigade soon arrived. The fire, which was located in the store-room, was a difficult one to fight, owing to the dense volumes of smoke, and damage to the extent of $300 was done before it was extinguished. The blaze is supposed to have originated in a large box of refuse which was in the store-room on the upper floor. The building has latterly been utilized as headquarters of the Indian and marine departments.

S. H. Graves Interviewed

Says Atlin Mines Will Be Producers for Years—Can Handle Traffic.

Cannot See Why Skagwayans Want Bonding Privilege Repealed.

President S. H. Graves, of the White Pass and Yukon Railway, and Manager Hawkins, arrived at White Horse in time to be present at the driving of the golden spike on July 31, which secured the last piece of rail. They were there too, for the opening of the line on the day following. In an interview at Skagway, Mr. Graves said:

"There is much business in sight, I was told while on the Sound, for Dawson, by the Skagway gateway, and we are pleased to now announce that we were never better equipped to handle traffic. Whereas it took eight or ten days to go from Skagway to White Horse with freight a year ago, we can now cover the same distance and avoid the dangers of the White Horse rapids in as many hours.

"With the large fleet of steamers plying on the Yukon in connection with the road we feel the service given now is quite commensurate with the demands of the field. There is no present intention of building beyond White Horse, as we consider we are now in a position to give the public a first-class service. Should experience demonstrate that it can be improved in any respect, we stand ready and willing to do so. We desire to see the country developed to its maximum. The mines of the Klondike, I believe, will yield an increase for years, and the American camps farther down the river seem to promise well. All create markets, and we hope to see them develop. Skagway, it appears to me, is the logical point for a smelter should one be needed here, and there are indications that one may. The railroad has made Skagway, and it desires to help the port all it can. The Atlin mines, I think, will be producers for many years. However, the fact that prospecting still continues, makes capital chary of the field. What is needed there is a permanent judge, a man who will settle cases of jumping quickly. Capital does not like to invest where there is a dispute as to title. However, it will gravitate into Atlin, I think, in time. The gold that is coming from the Klondike now is one of the greatest advertisements the north has ever had. The day of hard luck stories about the Klondike is past. Now it is the golden story of the much prized harvest of nuggets. These stories go broadcast over the land and they have their effect.

"If a half million to a million dollars of gold be shipped from New York any day the leading journals there take up the matter with great interest and draw out the point that the country is being drained of gold or something of the kind. And now there comes out of the Klondike millions after millions into the States each year. It certainly has its effect on the land in a most significant financial way. Truly, this is a great country, and the world, although having gotten over the excitement from the sudden burst of the discovery, is realizing the stability of the region.

"The big printing company that is putting out our new railroad folders in Chicago cannot print them as fast as the public demands them. It is wonderful. They are complete with maps and data, and the first we have gotten out for which there has been such a call.

"The company has never contemplated the putting on of steamers between Skagway and the Sound, and has adhered to a policy not to antagonize invested capital. In this in our own field we wish to be alive to necessities of service."

Regarding the agitation at Skagway for the repealing of the bonding privileges, Mr. Graves says:

"The privileges whereby Canada ships goods through Skagway to the British-Yukon gold field was granted by Congress in what was termed the Alaska Act, passed in 1898. Canada gave the United States the right to ship goods in bond through the Canadian territory of the upper Yukon to American points on the lower Yukon. The United States reciprocated by the above mentioned act of congress, giving Canada the right to bond goods through American territory.

"I cannot see why Skagway merchants now want the bonding privilege repealed. Were it repealed they would not be gainers at least for any length of time. It is said Skagway would get wholesale houses, but it must be remembered Seattle is right back of her, and sure to reach for her trade.

"In fact, the goods going through this port are not to such a great extent Canadian. Many of them are of American manufacture. As duties are computed on the cost at the boundary, including the freight, the duties at the border of the northern states must be less than those at this border, hence American goods are entered at Victoria or Vancouver in preference to Skagway.

"Another matter Skagwayans should consider is the important fact that if they succeed in getting congress to close the port, they would only be inviting the Canadians to build an all-Canadian railroad to the Yukon. Such a road would at least divide the business. Skagway certainly does not want the business divided.

"If this were a Canadian port, of course all the traffic would come this way, and another road to the Yukon would be out of the question. This is the natural route, and by it should the traffic move to the north.

"Skagwayans are making, I think, a great mistake, in opposing the bonding of goods through the port to Yukon."

BUSINESS DEPRESSIONS.

They Are Founded On the Condition of the Iron Trade.

From Engineering Magazine.

If the whole industrial system is shaken, what is more natural than to look for the cause in the foundation of that system? If anyone doubts that iron is the foundation of all modern industries, let him imagine what the world would be to-day without it. What it would be if we depended upon wood, stone, copper and tin for our implements of agriculture, tools, machinery, vehicles of transportation on land and sea, the vast net work of rails on the surface and of pipes which carry water, gas and sewerage under the surface. What proportion of these could have existed without it? It matters little what its price is, provided that price is stable. The industries of the world depend upon the actions of individuals. When each individual considers an expenditure for a permanent improvement and finds that improvement will cost 50 per cent. to 100 per cent. more than it would have done a year before, or is likely to a year later, he acts, and that action is almost invariably to postpone that improvement.

This, in a nutshell, is the reason that industrial depressions follow an abnormal advance in pig-iron.

RAIL TO THE YUKON.

To the Editor of the Colonist:

Sir:—Having just returned from Dawson over the White Pass & Yukon railway, I would be glad if you would permit me to say something about the proposition to allow a company to parallel that road from Skagway to Bennett. The railway is now open to White Horse and has cost the company, I am told, fully $5,000,000. In addition to that the company and its members as private individuals have invested a large amount of money in mines and in finding out what the mineral resources of the country are. The company is operated at very great expense and there are only about five months in the year during which it can hope to meet its expenses. For the rest of the year it must depend upon local business as far as White Horse, and what little travel goes on to and from Dawson. They have to keep open one of the most difficult mountain roads in the world during the winter. I have been brought into close contact with the officers of the company, and I know that there are no undertakings of merit that they are not ready to assist as far as they consistently can, and that their plans involve the construction of branch lines as needed, and that in every way they intend to develop the country, because unless they do so, their investment will be a losing one. It seems to me that people who have done this are entitled to some protection. They did not ask for any help. As a business man with large interests in the North, I feel sure that it will be bad business policy for the British Columbia legislature to do anything that will discourage this company and cause its members to feel that their investments are subject to needless interference at critical times.

There is no demand among the business people of the northern country for another railway from Skagway. They would all like to see an all-Canadian route if the Yukon develops sufficiently to warrant it; but it would be very bad policy to throw anything in the way of the success of the only concern that has given us a route to the interior, without which we would have been shut off from our own country.

Who secured the bonding privilege at Skagway? I know that it was chiefly secured by the White Pass & Yukon company. Who secured the right to Canadians to ship through perishables in bond?. It was the same company, for they sent a special agent to Washington for that very purpose. This company has done more than all other agencies combined to enable Canadians to trade in their own country and enable individual traders to compete with the big transportation companies doing business by way of St. Michael. The company say that as the increase of business warrants they will reduce their rates, and the course they have already followed shows that they man what they say.

It seems to me that a company which has done so much for the northern country ought to be allowed to get its line fairly going before having people, who may or may not be able to build five miles of road, given the power to interfere with them by lessening the value of their investment in the money market. I understand that none of the money used in building the road has been subscribed by the public, but has been advanced by the members of the company. Surely they have a right to enjoy a legitimate profit from their enterprise. They are British capitalists and they represent British capital. In Great Britain a railway franchise confers some sort of vested right, and when one has been granted speculators are not permitted to obtain another to parallel it. Last winter the Dominion government refused to allow the C.P.R. to parallel a line owned by Mackenzie and Mann on the ground that it would not be keeping faith with the bondholders. Surely the members of this company ought to be in no worse position than those bondholders.

Before any other company is permitted to build from Skagway to Bennett the government ought to look the ground over thoroughly for themselves and find out what the plans of the White Pass & Yukon company are and also the real views of the business community. The building of railways there ought to be governed by some settled government policy. Of course, there are complaints against the company. I have heard of some cases where small shippers have thought themselves badly used; but I have done business in Eastern Canada and in several parts of the United States and I have yet to hear of a place where such complaints are not made. The great thing is: Is the business community as a whole satisfied? I hold that it is; that is to say it is satisfied to have the White Pass & Yukon do the transportation business until an all-Canadian road can be built. There need be no fear of monopoly, for during the summer the river is open and goods can always be taken in that way. But the company has too much sense to put up rates beyond what the public can afford to pay. They have far more traffic accommodation than the country needs or will need for a year or so. Their policy is to increase their business, and this they can only do by putting rates at figures which the business of the country can afford to pay.

Suppose another road is built from Skagway, will anyone put money in an all-Canadian line? I do not believe it. Suppose the Americans conclude to shut off the bonding privilege after a second road has been built. Where will the Canadian traders be? As a Canadian trader, shipping up to $20,000 worth of goods into the Yukon every month, I protest against anything that will prevent the building of an all-Canadian line and place us at the mercy of the United States customs house officials. Whenever sufficient political pressure is brought on the United States government to lead them to abolish the bonding privilege.

A NORTHERN TRADER.

Victoria, Aug. 6.

FRUIT GROWERS' SHOW.

Arrangements Complete For the Exhibition on Wednesday and Thursday.

The B. C. Fruit Growers' Association's exhibition, to be held in Vancouver on Wednesday and Thursday, is being held in the attempt to create greater interest than has been shown for several years in the work of the association. The prize list, amounting to $575, has been compiled, with a view to the encouragement of small growers of fruit, flowers and vegetables, and the prizes compare favorably with those of other societies.

Sir Henri Joly has kindly consented to open the exhibition, and has shown his interest in horticulture by donating $25 in prizes.

Freimuth's opera house orchestra has been engaged to discourse music during the afternoons and evenings of the exhibition. Reduced rates on all lines of transportation have been secured. The committee have spared no pains to have a successful exhibition, and think they can with confidence appeal to the fruit and flower loving public for such support as will show that the association still retains their goodwill, and be an incentive to greater efforts on their part in the future.

A Typographical Error.—In Sunday morning's Colonist, under the heading of "Sledge-Hammer Bargains" in the Westside's full-page advertisement, appears an item reading, "1,000 yards shelf oilcloth, regular value 10c., sale price 17½c." The latter price should read 5c. per yard.

Provincial Legislature

The Lieutenant-Governor Gives His Assent to The Jurors' Bill.

Telegram Announcing Stoppage of Japanese Immigration Read by Premier.

The routine work yesterday afternoon in the legislature was relieved by several little incidents that broke the monotony and at times awakened a little flutter of interest amongst the spectators as well as on the floor of the house. The old and the new Attorney-General crossed words again, the honors going once more to Hon. Mr. Eberts. That the government is not unaffected by the desire to have a short session appeared in their request, which was assented to, that Mr. McPhillips withdraw his Mortgagees' Costs bill. That, whether the heavens fall or not, the present session will not have been abortive is assured from the fact that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor came down and by consenting to the Jurors' Amendment Act, made that a law; and lastly, after the ruling out of the McInnes labor bill as interfering with the prerogative of the Crown, the labor resolution of Mr. Helmcken was taken up and debated for nearly an hour. Some ten or a dozen bills were also advanced a stage.

After prayers by Rev. Mr. Rowe, the Premier presented the following telegram, which was read and ordered to be printed with the proceedings of the day:

"Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 7, 1900.

"Hon. Premier Dunsmuir, Victoria, B.C.:

"Yesterday I received a cablegram from my government, to the effect that the local authorities were instructed on the 31st ultimo to prohibit entirely the emigration of Japanese from Japan to Canada, and also to the United States. I hope you will announce this to the legislature. Will confirm by mail.

"CONSUL SHIMIZU."

Chairman Pooley presented the third and fourth reports of the railway committee. They approved of the Vancouver, Northern & Yukon railway bill, and recommended the adoption of the plan of a model bill now before the committee which would facilitate and produce a greater uniformity in legislation.

An amendment to the Official Administrators Act was introduced by the Attorney-General. It provides certain legal machinery for the putting of the main act into practice. The bill was read a first time.

A bill amending the Succession Duties Act was introduced by the Attorney-General and received its first reading. After providing for certain references to the Supreme Court for the enforcing of the provisions of the act, changes in the rates of duties are set forth. These fix the duty on estates of over $25,000, passing to collateral heirs as against sons, grandparents and children and grandchildren to 1½ per cent. up to $100,000, 2½ per cent. up to $200,000, and 5 per cent. of estates exceeding $200,000 in value. The bill was given its first reading.

Upon the resumption of the Evidence bill, on report of the committee, Mr. Martin persisted in his attempt of the previous day to insert his own, or rather Mr. Smith Curtis' amendments. The effort was made the occasion of a renewal of his attack upon Hon. Mr. Eberts. He complained that that minister would not accept the suggestions labored over as they had been of the opposition. While claiming to be reasonable, he essayed to control the house by a brute majority, and imagined that his own sweet will should be supreme. Continuing, he repeated his arguments of the previous day about the section at issue.

Hon. Mr. Eberts expressed his sympathy for the raw feelings of the leader of the opposition because his suggestion had not been adopted. Undoubtedly his alone could be the right ideas, but the present government preferred to act upon the suggestion of the Dominion government rather than follow Mr. Martin's feet amid crude and experimental legislation. The present form of the act met the needs of the province and afforded the protection required.

Mr. Martin—Not in a single instance.

Hon. Mr. Eberts—Well, you may contradict, but you simply do not know. You speak, too, of a brute majority, but what about the session of 1899? What was it that the house witnessed then? Did the government accept a single suggestion of the then opposition? Not one. The ministers had not even the courtesy to listen. They walked out. Amendments were flung back into the faces of the opposition. They would consider nothing, nor even listen.

Mr. Martin—There is not a single fact for the foundation of that.

Hon. Mr. Eberts—Well, those who were there know the facts.

The motion was negatived on the following division:

Yeas—McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Brown, Martin, Curtis, R. Smith—9.

Nays—Kidd, Neill, Munro, Green, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Taylor, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Tatlow, Dickie, Mounce—25.

The bill was read a third time and passed.

Upon the consideration of the Companies Act in committee, certain amendments of Mr. McPhillips' were accepted and the committee rose to sit again.

The Rossland Water and Light Co. bill was passed without amendment by the committee of the whole and read a third time.

Committee work on the early closing of shops bill was completed with a few verbal amendments and report made. The third reading will come on to-day.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor then entered the house, and having taken the Speaker's chair, the clerk, Mr. Fell, announced His Honor's assent to the Jurors Act in the words, "In Her Majesty's name, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor doth assent to this bill," and the same became law.

The act regarding the qualification of the members for the Sandon city council then passed its third reading without comment.

There was a general turning of chairs as the McInnes labor bill was reached. Its father was about to introduce the measure when Mr. McPhillips asked whether it were in order or not. The bill affecting as it did the hours of labor and the kind of workmen to be employed in so long a list of works might be taken to be as in restriction of trade, and if it were such would be beyond the powers of the assembly.

Mr. McInnes considered that that point should be decided in the courts and not there.

Hon. Mr. Prentice suggested that it further affected the prerogative of the crown in limiting the hours of labor of the crown's servants.

Numerous authorities were quoted, and at last Mr. Speaker Booth ruled that the bill was out of order on the grounds suggested by Hon. Mr. Prentice. From this decision Mr McInnes appealed, but the chair was sustained upon the following division:

Yeas—McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Brown, Curtis, R. Smith—8.

Nays—Kidd, Neill, Munro, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Tatlow, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Dickie, Mounce—26.

Mr. McInnes then pressed for a ruling on Mr. McPhillips' objection, viz., that the bill was one in restraint of trade. Mr. Pooley urged, however, that this was out of order and suggested that Mr. McInnes reintroduce his measure without the clauses which had proved so fatal. This Mr. McInnes did later on.

The Investment and Loan Societies Amending Act was read a second time; and the Mortgagees Costs Act had come up for like treatment when Mr. Hunter intervened with tones of protest. The members had come to this session, he said, to pass the estimates and go home, and yet bills like this lawyers' coets matter were being introduced daily. It was the time of harvest, and 26 members wanted to go, but these matters, which would do just as well next winter. Otherwise the present session would run on into October, and the parliament would sit six months out of the twelve. It would be a good thing for the country to have this lawyers' bill withdrawn.

Mr. Neill followed in similar strain, and urged as a bare protest that if the bill were not withdrawn it be voted down. A good deal had been heard of this fancied agreement that the opposition talked about, but whether or no, the government should be careful and not allow the house to be troubled with bills about lawyers' costs and loan companies and voting machines. These were all down, but he had yet to learn that the people were pining for voting machines. Many of them had had quite enough of voting matters for several years, and would be found ready to forget the subject. Again, this was no ordinary session, and until it ended the work of the departments could not go on, nor could the work which was so much needed throughout the country. If a session run on too long the rains would come, and public works could not be prosecuted. He would vote against the bill.

Mr. Eberts suggested that the measure be withdrawn, and after slight objection Mr. McPhillips assented, and the house granted the requisite leave.

The adjourned debate upon Mr. Helmcken's labor resolution was then resumed at the point where Mr. McInnes' anti-Chinese amendment came in. To this amendment Mr. Helmcken objected. However much he might sympathize in its sentiment, he did not think it should be tagged on to everything, and as it had no connection with the subject of his motion, and there was already a standing resolution of the house to cover its end, he could not consent to its being tagged to his resolution.

Mr. Speaker waited for some time, called the question twice, then at the request of a member read the amendment, called the question three times, and no one rising, rang the division bell.

But Mr. Brown wanted to speak on the subject, and persisted that advantage had been taken of him.

The opposition appeared to have been desirous of catching a vote upon the single amendment, but on Mr. Brown pressing for a chance to speak, the house consented to the renewal of the debate, and as it turned out, gave chance for the introducing of a second amendment, thus spoiling the catch-vote.

Mr. Brown spoke for some time upon provincial rights, and then reminded the government members from Vancouver and Hon. Mr. McBride of their pre-election pledges. These he hoped that they would now keep, as 90 per cent. of the people of the province were behind them.

Mr. McPhillips spoke at some length upon the constitutional aspect of the question, and severely attacked the Ottawa government for only adding $50 to the Chinese entry tax. He then pointed to the effect of the policy of the opposition regarding this matter upon the development of the country. Such a policy, hampering in every direction, would, he claimed, seriously retard all progress, and in face of Hon. Mr. Mills' threat, they would do well not to embarrass private bills with such an amendment as this. In its place he would move:

"That if any provincial aid be granted in the way of contributions from the public funds of the province or a grant of crown lands in aid of any public undertaking, that any such aid or grant be conditional upon a contract being entered into by any such person or company receiving aid or the grant of land, that no Chinaman or Japanese be employed upon any such work or undertaking."

Mr. Tatlow supported this last amendment. He was glad to have Mr. Brown remind him of the election pledges, as they reminded him of the plank in Mr. Wilson's platform on which he had been elected and which quite fitted in Mr. McPhillips' amendment. In Mr. Wilson's address they could read: "What should be done in my opinion is: Let the legislature in all acts conferring special privileges so frame the acts that the privileges are not conferred by the act itself, but the lieutenant-governor-in-council is empowered to grant them on such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon. The question thus becomes one of simple contract between the crown and the subject."

Hon. Mr. McBride deprecated the gallery play of the opposition members. This was a very serious question, but they by their daily references were dragging it into the dust. The government had been in power but six or seven weeks, but already more had been done than ever before in this matter, as was shown in the message they had just received from the Japanese authorities. This was a result of the strong and stable policy of the government that had the good of the people at heart and enjoyed their confidence. It had been suggested at the opening of the session that if the government did not act on many questions the opposition would try to do so. And in accordance with this were these many attempts to embarrass the government. However, the government was too broad and considered the matter too seriously to be caught by this sort of chaff. He hoped that the house would treat this as a serious matter and not take it up for cheap notoriety's sake, as men who were making a living out of it. Should the present opposition amendment carry, its effect upon the country might be most injurious, e. g. in the salmon canning business. The matter had not been well considered, however sincere they might be in their intentions.

Mr. Garden wanted Mr. Brown to understand that in his election pledges he had promised to use his best judgment in all matters, and to that the McInnes resolution did not commend itself. He was sorry to hear Mr. McPhillips state that in this matter they were powerless, as he held they could do a lot, and it might be well done, on the lines set forth by his colleague, Mr. Tatlow.

Mr. Oliver thought from Hon. Mr. McBride's remarks that the United States congress should send their thanks to this government, as the Japanese message affected that country as well as Canada.

Mr. Brown followed in an attack upon Hon. Mr. McBride, whom he accused of gallery play.

Mr. McInnes then made a fiery speech, accusing the government of a hedging policy and of attempting to shut off discussion by all sorts of technicalities. They intended, however, in spite of all to keep at this matter. The subject would never be dropped. It could be treated of under the head of contract and civil rights, as well as by provisions similar to the Natal Act. He doubted, however, whether the government were sincere in the matter, and thought that they intended to do nothing with it this session.

Mr. Ralph Smith then said he wished to speak to the question, and the debate was adjourned and the house, too, at 5:59 p. m.

NOTES.

A large and influential deputation from Princeton waited upon the government yesterday morning, asking for considerable expenditures of government money in that neighborhood. Government buildings at Princeton, the road to Keremeos, and the famous Hope-Princeton wagon road are amongst the principal items of their budget.

Of the amendments to the game law proposed by Mr. McInnes the following are the most interesting points: Boys under 16 may not carry guns unless accompanied by parents or guardians. Cold storage of birds during close season is prohibited. The power of the lieutenant-governor-in-council to open a season in case of game absolutely protected is not to be exercised before September, 1902. The penalties also have been increased, and a minimum amount of $25 fixed for the fine.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

Hon. Mr. Eberts replied to Mr. McInnes' question as follows:

1. What amount of fees and expenses are claimed by each of the arbitrators and the umpire in connection with the arbitration on the special rule under the Coal Mines Regulation Act, and what was the total cost of the said arbitration?

Answer:—According to the award of the arbitrators, that each side should pay its own arbitrator and half the costs of the umpire, the government has paid: F. W. MacCrady, umpire, $490.50; W. J. McAllan, arbitrator on behalf of government, $669.75. The total cost of the arbitration is $2,331.75.

Hon. Mr. Wells replied to Mr. Gilmour's question as follows:

1. What information has the government received in regard to damage done by high water on the Fraser river this year? 2. Does the government intend giving any relief to the sufferers by said high water; and if so, the nature of relief?

Answer:—The government are taking steps to ascertain fully the nature and extent of damages done by the late freshet, and on receipt of complete reports the question of relief will be considered.

QUESTIONS ASKED.

On Thursday next Mr. Oliver will ask the Minister of Agriculture:

Why was Mr. Thomas Wilson dismissed from the horticultural board? Who has been appointed in his place, and at what salary?

He will also ask the Attorney-General:

How many hotel licenses at $100 per year, and how many hotel licenses at $200 per year, were in force under the Liquor License Act, 1899, on the 23rd day of April, 1900?

NOTICES.

On Thursday next Mr. McInnes will introduce another labor bill.

On Thursday next Hon. Mr. Turner will introduce a bill to amend the Assessment Act.

On Thursday next Mr. Oliver will introduce a bill to amend the Municipal Clauses Act.

On Thursday next Hon. Mr. Prentice will introduce a bill to incorporate the Vancouver City Hospital.

On Thursday next Mr. Brown will move for a return showing the number of ballot papers actually issued to voters in each riding of the province at the general election held on the 9th day of June, 1900.

Mr. McInnes has given notice of his intention to continue the opposition party campaign against railway charters by moving that the following clause, rejected by the committee, be inserted on the third reading of the Rock Bay & Salmon River Railway Co.'s bill:

"No person who is unable to read this act and the British Columbia Railway Act shall be employed in the construction or operation of the undertaking hereby authorized, under a penalty of $5 per day for each and every such person so employed in contravention of this section, to be recovered on complaint of any person under the provisions of the Summary Convictions Act. This section shall not apply to or affect in any way any person who is on the register of voters in any electoral district for the legislative assembly of British Columbia, any Indian or person of Caucasian blood."

Mr. Brown has given notice of a clause which he proposes to add to the Crow's Nest Pass Power and Light bill, reserving to the municipality the right to purchase the fran