FINANCES FOR PAST YEAR

MINISTER'S REPORT ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Ordinary Revenue of the Province Exceeds the Expenditure By About $700.000.

the public accounts of the province presented to the House by the Minister of Finance yesterday show a balance of revenue over expenditure of $715,316.22, including the Dominion subsidies of $307,076.66. This is an increase of $96,672.35 over the balance of last year. The increased balance is due in part to a decrease in expenditure. It is more largely due to the increase in revenue from a variety of sources. For instance the increase from land sales for the year 1905-1906 as compared with the preceding fiscal year, amounts to $47,881.09. Timber leases show $24,221.66 better than the previous year.

revenue from land sales for the year 1905-1906 as compared with the proceeding fiscal year, amounts to $47,881.09. Timber leases show $24,221.66 better than the previous year.

The revenue from commercial travellers' licenses which the previous fiscal year amounted to but $7,250, this year reaches the figure of $21,050.

Increased revenue is also noticeable from general mining recepits, registry fees, revenue, personal property and mineral taxes.

The expenditure for the fiscal year shows a decrease in the amount for education of $15,007.20. While the sum expended upon roads, streets, bridges and wharves is somewhat in excess of the amount of last year it still falls far short of the totals spent for the fiscal years of 1902-1903 and 1903-1904.

The public debt shows an increase of $36,879.13 over that of the preceding year.

The report of the auditor-general shows the following summary of expenditure for the year ending June, 1906.

Service.		Total Expenditure.
1.—Public debt		$ 713,063 55
2.—Civil government (salaries)		253,634 75
3.—Administration of justice (salaries)		118,722 52
4.—Legislation		47,755 05
5.—Public institutions (maintenance)		157,822 72
6.—Hospitals and charities		107,571 10
7.—Administration of justice (other than salaries)		116,405 53
8.—Education		418,937 97
9.—Transport		29,021 62
11.—Revenue services		24,918 15
12.—Public Works—		
Works and buildings	$ 72,028 37	
Governm't House, Victoria	5,125 77	
Roads, streets, bridges and wharves	368,594 06	
Surveys	6,978 56	
		$ 452,726 76
13.—Miscellaneous		179,557 94
		$2,620,147 66

The following sums though not included in the above expenditure, have been paid out of the ordinary revenue of the province and are chargeable to:

Dyking districts, for maintenance of dykes	$13,200 34	
Shuswap and Okanagan railway, in excess of earnings	$21,802 56	
Nakusp and Slocan railway, in excess of earnings	16,465 16	
Victoria and Sidney railway, 2 per cent. guarantee of interest on bonds	6,030 00	
	$44,297 72	
		$ 57,498 06
Gross expenditure		$2,677,645 72

A comparative statement of the recepits and expenditures of the province for the past fiscal year and the year previous is as follows:

REVENUE.

	1904-1905 1st July to 30th June.	1905-1906 1st July to 30th June.
Dominion of Canada—		
Annual payment of interest	$ 29,151 06	$ 29,151 06
Annual payment of subsidy	35,000 00	35,000 00
Annual payment of grant per capita	142,925 00	142,925 00
Annual payment for lands conveyed	100,000 00	100,000 00
Land sales	141,510 83	189,391 92
Land revenue	159,412 55	120,019 53
Survey fees	1,092 90	1,153 98
Rents, exclusive of land	28 50	81 00
Timber leases	76,228 17	100,449 33
Timber royalty and licenses	410,288 29	509,043 44
Free Miners' certificates	53,504 04	54,296 82
Mining recepts, general	105,192 21	116,896 20
Licenses, trade and liquor (see note)	53,663 06	51,872 00
Licenses, game		2,735 00
Licenses, commercial travellers	7,250 00	21,050 00
Fines and fees of court	12,594 25	14,454 70
Probate fees	10,613 53	6,076 75
Succession duty	31,073 08	30,332 32
Law stamps	12,607 90	15,171 06
Registry fees	93,012 24	155,120 71
Sale of government property	1,542 93	1,198 00
Marriage licenses	6,610 00	7,280 00
Revenue tax	157,821 00	179,721 00
Real property tax	286,226 16	301,765 35
Personal property tax	193,004 80	184,587.16
Wild land tax (including coal and timber lands)	101,607 29	101,308 02
Income tax	72,053 22	83,824 33
Mineral tax	114,236 77	161,904 95
Royalty and tax on coal	94,682 45	107,587 42
Revenue service refunds	1,322 57	574 46
Tax sale deeds	1,580 00	1,440 00
Tax on unworked crowngranted mineral claims	39,869 86	28,606 65
Commission and fees on sales for taxes	103 30	21 22
Printing office	21,679 29	33,166 01
Registered taxes (all denominations)	148 69	56 85
Bureau of mines	1,709 50	788 70
Hospital for the insane	14,159 53	19,957 84
Provincial Home	188 27	1,692 28
Reimbursements for keep of prisoners	2,186 55	2,322 10
Chinese restriction (Act, 1884, Dominion Statutes)	225,909 00	.....
Traffic tolls, New Westminster bridge	15,140 35	22,104 75
Interest	18,896 69	17,025 11
Dykes Assessment Act, 1905 (tax on lands against capital charge)	.....	14,708 82
Miscellaneous receipts	28,706 33	78,886 54
	$2,874,554 76	$2,992,900 36
Interest on investment of sinking funds	45,906 95	51,542 13
Net revenue	$2,920,461 71	$3,044,442 49
Deposits on account of intestate estates (receipts)	78,184 34	71,861 74
Deposits on account of suitors' fund (receipts)	26,986 11	36,424 12
Deposits on account of tax sales' surplus (receipts)	995 89	1,657 16
Shuswap & Okanagan railway receipts (Act, 1890)	24,021 40	28,400 34
Nakusp & Slocan railway receipts (Act, 1884)	6,301 48	9,783 96

EXPENDITURE.

	1904-1905 1st July to 30th June.	1905-1906 1st July to 30th June.
1.—Public Debt—		
Interest	$ 393,623 93	$ 411,758 93
*Sinking funds (chargeable to investment acc't) as follows—		
Trustees' account, "Loan Act, 1877"	9,253 80	9,253 80
Trustees' account, interest invester, "Loan Act, 1877"	13,546 35	14,337 03
Trustees' account, interest invested, "Loan Act, 1887"	5,877 22	5,577 22
Trustees' account, interest invested, "Loan Act, 1887"	6,265 57	6,780 17
Trustees' account, "Loan Acts, 1891, '93, '95, '99 & 1902"	99,219 36	99,219 36
Trustees' account, interest invested, "Loan Acts, 1891, '93, '95, '99 and 1902"	26,095 03	30,424 93
Sinking fund, "Dyking Assessments Adjustment Act, 1905"	.....	13,428 88
Premium and exchange	3,909 28	3,571 79
Discount and Commission	5,683 88	5,711 44
Incidental expenses of negotiating loan, 1902	.....	.....
**Redemption of debentures (Loan Act, 1897)	10,000 00	10,000 00
**Redemption of debentures (Loan Act, 1903)	100,000 00	100,000 00
2.—Civil government (salaries)	250,568 89	253,634 75
3.—Administration of justice (salaries)	115,455 46	118,722 52
4.—Legislation	45,653 97	47,755 05
5.—Public Institutions (Maintenance)—		
Printing office	50,898 63	41,291 35
Hospital for the insane	77,893 99	84,560 68
Museum	3,388 36	3,202 20
Provincial Home	12,745 83	12,474 16
Bureau of Mines	4,000 35	1,998 78
Fish hatchery	12,219 90	14,194 55
6.—Hospitals and charities	96,466 83	107,571 10
7. Administration of justice (other than salaries)	108,186 87	116,405 53
8.—Education	433,945 17	418,937 97
9.—Transport	27,748 82	29,021 62
10.—Rent	.....	.....
11.—Revenue services	22,094 96	24,918 15
12.—Public Works—		
Works and buildings	104,129 99	72,028 37
Parliament buildings	2,500 00	.....
Government House, Victoria	3,079 70	5,125 77
Roads, streets, bridges and wharves	296,510 76	368,594 06
Surveys	6,534 03	6,978 56
New Westminster bridge	45,303 46	.....
13.—Miscellaneous	130,468 59	179,557 94
	$2,575,374 17	$2,620,147 66
*Less amount of sinking funds as above, chargeable to investment account	162,957 33	182,021 39
	$2,412,417 84	$2,438,126 27
**Less redemption of debentures as above, chargeable against loans	110,000 00	110,000 00
Net expenditure	$2,302,417 84	$2,328,126 27
Deposits on account of intestate estates (repaid)	64,683 36	69,539 91
Deposits on account of suitors' fund (repaid)	19,208 14	26,796 18
Deposits on account of tax sales' surplus (repaid)	705 63	413 71
Shuswap & Okanagan railway payments (Act, 1890)	51,238 71	50,202 90
Nakusp & Slocan railway payments (Act, 1884)	26,269 06	26,249 12

At the end of the month of July, 1905, the balance of liabilities over assets amounted to $8,788,228.69. This year the amount is smaller, $8,106,102.99. When the great increase in revenue from so many sources coupled with the continually decreasing amounts expended on various public utilities is considered, the decrease has not the significance it would otherwise possess. The "cheeese-paring" policy of the government has its laurels, but they merely conceal a very large proportion of thorns.

The balance sheet of the province for the year is as follows:

ASSETS.

Dominion government, section 2, Terms of Union	$ 583,021 40
Sinking fund loan, 1877 (invested in London)	437,768 40
Sinking fund loan, 1887 (invested in London)	212,765 90
Sinking fund loan, 1891, '93, '95, '99 and 1902 (invested in London) (inscribed stock)	1,031,108 48
Sinking fund loan, B. C. Dyking Debentures, 1897 and 1899	13,428 88
Canadian Bank of Commerce (account current)	831,518 96
Canadian Bank of Commerce (gold bar deposit account)	1,061 52
Bank of Montreal deposit account, land registry assurance fund (Land Registry Act, 1906)	20,636 00
Glyn, Mills, Currie & Co., London	268 52
Victoria & Sidney Railway Co. (amount paid for interest on the company's bonds)	83,095 00
Haddington Island stone quarry (balance due on purchase of mortgage, etc.)	408 89
Advance to farmers for seed in 1895 (re Fraser river floods)	15,535 33
Nakusp and Slocan railway, mortgage account	647,072 00
Shuswap and Okanagan Railway Co. (amount paid for interest on bonds, etc., in excess of Dominion subsidy and net earnings)	92,830 04
Security investment in B. C. 3 per cent. stock for B. C. Plate Glass Insurance Co.	970 00
Bank of Montreal, Montreal (cash deposit by the Royal Trust Co. as security under sec. 2, "Royal Trust Company Incorporation Act, 1905")	50,000 00
Stumping powder, purchase account	2,052 75
Rural school districts (advances against school rates)	2,486 03
Comox Creamery Association (Loan, "Dairy Associations Act")	1,500 00
Victoria Creamery Association (Loan, "Dairy Associations Act")	1,250 00
Abbotsford Creamery Association (Loan, "Dairy Associations Act")	400 00
Salt Spring Island Creamery Association (Loan, "Dairy Associations Act")	1,500 00
Nanaimo Creamery Association (Loan, "Dairy Associations Act")	1,500 00
Okanagan Creamery Association (Loan, "Dairy Associations Act")	1,000 00
White Valley Creamery Association (Loan, "Dairy Associations Act")	2,000 00
Dewdney municipality (Loan, "Dewdney Municipality Relief Act, 1906")	15,000 00
Dairymen's and Live Stock Association (advance account)	2,473 24
Chilliwack Dyking District, capital charge against lands, under the "Dyking Assessments Adjustment Act, 1905"	199,970 04
Coquitlam Dyking District, do. do.	57,982 71
Maple Ridge Dyking District, do. do.	127,388 34
Matsqui Dyking District, do. do.	125,000 00
Pitt Meadows Dyking District, do. do.	34,868 00
Coquitlam Dyking District, interest account	19 87
Maple Ridge Dyking District, interest account	51 78
Chilliwack Dyking District, maintenance of dykes	1,856 22
Coquitlam Dyking District, maintenance of dykes	2,430 02
Maple Ridge Dyking District, maintenance of dykes	3,972 87
Matsqui Dyking District, maintenance of dykes	4,564 83
Pitt Meadows Dyking District, maintenance of dykes	376 40
Advances to Departments, viz.—	
Hon. Provincial Secretary	$ 100 00
Hon. Minister of Mines	250 00
Hon. C. C. Lands and Works	12,600 00
Public Works Engineer	100 00
Surveyor of Taxes	150 00
S. Baxter, inspector of boilers	150 00
Superintendent of Police	250 00
Agent-General, London	500 00
Department of Agriculture	200 00
Assessors, Kootenay and V. I.	300 00
R. M. Palmer, superintendent of horticulture	200 00
	$ 14,300 00
Balances Due by Agents, viz.—	
Cowichan	$1,500 00
Revelstoke	3,500 00
New Westminster	1,000 00
Vernon	2,000 00
Telegraph Creek	386 26
Nelson	2,500 00
Comox	2,000 00
Greenwood	1,000 00
Cranbrook	2,000 00
Rossland	1,000 00
Kamloops	1,500 00
Atlin	5,414 79
Alberni	1,500 00
Nanaimo	2,000 00
Golden	1,500 00
Port Simpson	761 66
Ashcroft	1,000 00
Kaslo	3,000 00
Barkerville	2,387 57
Clinton	49 33
Fairview	3,000 00
Grand Forks	1,000 00
Nicola	150 00
Fernie	2,000 00
Thos. H. McKay, collector, Vancouver	833 25
	$ 42,985 46
Cash balance on hand at treasury	3,916 10
Province of British Columbia (being balance of liabilities over assets)	8,106,152 99
	$13,133,693 71

LIABILITIES.

British Columbia Loan (Act, 1877) bearing 6 per cent. interest, payable in London	$ 462,690 00
British Columbia Loan (Act, 1887) bearing 4½ per cent. interest, payable in London	381,210 00
British Columbia Loan (Act, 1891) bearing 3 per cent. interest, payable in London	2,139,141 00
British Columbia Loan (Act, 1893) bearing 3 per cent. interest, payable in London	599,945 00
British Columbia Loan (Act, 1895) bearing 3 per cent. interest, payable in London	2,037,000 00
British Columbia Loan (Act, 1897) bearing 3½ per cent. interest, payable at Victoria	20,000 00
British Columbia Loan (Act, 1899) bearing 3 per cent. interest, payable in London	1,649,000 00
British Columbia Loan (Act, 1902) bearing 3 per cent. interest, payable in London	3,496,850 00
British Columbia Loan (Act, 1903) bearing 3 per cent. interest, payable at Victoria	800,000 00
British Columbia Loan (Dyking Debenture Acts, 1897, 1898, and 1899), payable at Victoria	671,000 00
Railway guarantee bonds (Nakusp and Slocan Railway Aid Act, 1894)	647,072 00
Deposits (intestate estates, etc.)	119,547 01
Deposits (suitors' funds, "Suitors Fund Act")	36,520 48
Deposits (surplus moneys from tax sales)	2,892 38
Fording Valley Railway Co. (security deposit, section 21 of the Company's Incorporation Act, 1905)	5,000 00
British Columbia Plate Glass Insurance Co. (security deposit, section 3 of the Company's Incorporation Act, 1901)	970 00
Royal Trust Co. (security deposit, section 2 of the Company's Incorporation Act, 1905)	50,000 00
Premium on sale of dyking debentures (Suspense account)	6,000 00
Real estate mining claims (sec. 152, "Placer Mining Act")	352 04
Chilliwack Dyking District, sinking fund account	3,063 02
Coquitlam Dyking District, sinking fund account	861 23
Maple Ridge Dyking District, sinking fund account	1,888 73
Pitt Meadows Dyking District, sinking fund account	523 02
Chilliwack Dyking District, interest account	118 78
Registrar Supreme Court (Sec. 86, Land Clauses Consolidation Act)	897 50
Gold bar account (bullion deposit from assay office)	1,061 52
	$13,133,693 71

GIGANTIC GROWTH OF CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Statistical Data Gives History of the Business for the Last Thirty-two Years.

The first report of the new statistical branch of the department of railways, of which J. Lambert Payne is the comptroller, was tabled recently at Ottawa. The statistics are compiled from sworn statements supplied by the railways and it is noted with satisfaction that not a single railway made default this year in the submission of statistical data.

It was deemed important to make a digest of the statistical information, which had been issued from year to year since 1875. The tables, which are presented for the first time, represent a history in figures of the growth of the railway business in Canada. The tables give many interesting figures, showing the development of Canadian railways since 1875, including the following:

	1875.	1906.
Total mileage	4,804	21,353
Locomotives	980	2,931
1st class cars	488	1,289
2nd class cars	277	716
Baggage cars	236	849
Box cars	12,843	61,929
Platform cars	6,404	18,526
Coal cars	1,050	3,295

In 1875 the volume of traffic was 5,786 tons of freight and 5,596 passengers per locomotive, as compared with 19,773 tons and 9,549 passengers in 1906.

FELL INTO HOLD.

New York, March 9.—Six persons were precipitated into the hold of the Hamburg-American line steamer Romanic at Hoboken to-day, when the hatchway on which they were standing gave way. Boatswain Lewis, Seamen Walker, Morton and Kanork, and Messboys Parsley and Gater were removed to a hospital in a serious condition. Walker and Parsley

MILL WORKERS STRIKE.

Lumber Industry of Portland is Practically Paralyzed.

Portland, Ore., March 10.—The lumber industry of Portland was practically paralyzed yesterday when two thousand mill workers went on strike.

The feature of the situation is the action of the Western Federation of Miners, who are standing ready with $20,000 to throw into the funds of the striking union in order to help them maintain the strike. Other unions of the State are preparing to follow the miners' example, and it is thought before the week is out funds of the Mill Workers' Union will total over $50,000.

The mills were about ready to commence the spring work when the trouble started. Since that time it has come to such a pitch that the mill owners must have been able to proceed with the work in hand or lose large contracts on many of which forfeits for non-delivery will be impounded.

KILLED BY ROBBERS.

Kutais, Trans-Caucasia, March 9.—The treasurer of the local revenue, accompanied by two policemen and several local officials, was driving through the streets in a carriage yesterday with $7,500 in his custody when three bombs were thrown at his party. This attack was followed by a volley of revolver shots from the bandits. Both the policemen and the driver of the carriage and one of the officials were kiled, and the treasurer and four other officials were wounded. The robbers seized the money and escaped.

—Jasper Graham, the 9-year-old son of W. Graham, of 111 Fort street, who could not be found last night and caused his father a long and vain search up to 8 o'clock this morning, finally returned home after 5 o'clock. He had been keeping the night watchman company at the St. Francis hotel.

EXACT SITE OF WHALING DEPOT

SEALER DROWNED OFF CALIFORNIA COAST

Blasting of Rock From C. P. R. Landing Kills Thousands of Smelts.

With a cargo of lumber for the construction of three bunk houses and a wharf at the new whaling station at Kyuquot Sound, the steamer Queen City sailed last night. Her immediate objective is Narrow Cut Creek, the exact site of the gigantic whaling station upon which construction work will be commenced immediately. She carried on board fifty workmen, including a number of Japanese, who will be employed at the work. The bunk houses will be run up immediately on the arrival of the vessel, and as soon as these can afford accommodation for the workmen the construction of the wharf will commence. Next week the C. P. R. steamer Otter will leave for Narrow Cut Creek with a cargo consisting of the machinery for the new station.

SEALER DROWNED.

A broken compass caused the death of one of the crew of the sealing schooner Ida Etta of Victoria, while that vessel was off Pacific Grove on the California coast. Three men from the schooner were out in a rowboat looking for sea otters near the lighthouse. Losing sight of their vessel and with their compass not working they drifted to the vicinity of Rocky Creek beach. Heavy swells foiled their attempts to land, and finally one huge wave broke over the boat, capsizing it. Two of the men, Rosser and Sanchez, after buffeting the big breakers till almost exhausted, were thrown up on the shore and rescued by young people from Dick Smith's ranch. The third man's body has not been found.

BLASTING A ROCK.

A dull booming sound, a minature waterspout, and an aftermath of thousands of dead and dying little smelts floating along the surface of the water, were what were seen and heard in the waters of the inner C. P. R. wharf this morning. The occasion was the blasting of a rock to allow vessels to lie further up along the wharf. The rock lay alongside the piles at the inner wharf near the James Bay end. A hole was drilled, a charge inserted, the explosion took place, and now the vessels of the C. P. R. have more accommodation than of yore. As a result of the explosion a number of the piles supporting the wharf were shaken from their bed.

NEW ALLAN LINERS.

The Allan line has announced that its new steamer Corsican will take her place on the Liverpool-Montreal service on the 11th of July next, and will sail from Liverpool four weeks thereafter. The S. S. Corsican is a twin screw steel steamer of 11,000 tons register, and 18,000 tons displacement, or as large as the safe navigation of the St. Lawrence will permit of under present conditions. She is 500 feet in length, 60 feet in width, 41 feet in depth, and her sea speed is 16 knots.

A second new steamer called the Grampian will be placed on the Glasgow-Montreal route in September. She is of 10,000, twin screws and of dimensions almost the same as the Corsican. She will have for her running mate, the twin screw S. S. Ionian, 9,000 tons now on the Liverpool service. Both these steamers will carry first, second and third class passengers. The Allan line steamers embark and land their passengers at Montreal.

C. P. R. STEAMERS.

On Tuesday the Princess Beatrice will replace the Princess May on the Seattle run. The Princess May will sail for Skagway on the night of the 13th on a fortnightly schedule. As before announced in the Times the C. P. R. has now a weekly service to northern British Columbia ports, and in the future the Amur and the Princess May will sail on alternate weeks. The Princess Beatrice will leave for Seattle on Tuesday morning at the usual hour of sailing.

—H. W. T. Behensen, M. L. A., visited Fernie on Monday and arranged for the convention of the Licensed Victuallers' Association and the Provincial Aerie of Eagles next June.

EE EE
Steedman's
SOOTHING
Powders
Relieve FEVERISH HEAT.
Prevent FITS, CONVULSIONS, etc.
Preserve a healthy state of the constitution IN
CHILDREN
Please observe the EE in STEEDMAN.
EE CONTAIN NO POISON EE

LORD'S DAY ACT.

Text of the Address Presented to the Provincial Government.

(See also page 6.)

Following is the address which was presented to the provincial government by a delegation representing the Lord's Day Alliance:

The Honorable the Premier and Members of the Cabinet, Provincial Legislature:

Honorable Gentlemen:—In view of the announcement made recently to the effect that the Attorney-General, with the advice and support of the executive council, would withhold in the meantime his assent to prosecutions under the "Dominion Lord's Day Act," and in view of any possible action by the government, the Provincial Lord's Day Alliance of British Columbia beg respectfully to submit the following representations:

Jurisdiction of the Provinces.

(a) Whilst believing that in the nature of things the Lord's day is a fitting subject for national legislation, and that upon so important a matter there should be well defined national sentiment, nevertheless we do not regard it as of material importance from what source legislation comes, whether from the province or the Dominion. The important requisite is that legislation should be competent, and that our Sunday laws should have constitutional sanction.

(b) Though it is asserted that the "Dominion Act" purports to give liberty to the provinces to legislate in their own interest in respect of the Lord's day, we beg to state our view that the clauses of the act referred to, though they may bear that construction, do not necessarily convey to the provinces such power. The provinces have their constitution under the "British North America Act." Whatever power they have in respect of Lord's day legislation, if any, they have independent of the Dominion parliament, and if by the "British North America Act" such power is not bestowed it does not reside with the Dominion parliament to confer it.

(c) So far as this question has come under the consideration of the courts, we are bound to conclude that the provinces have no encouragement to move in the direction of "Lord's Day" legislation.

The judicial committee of the Privy Council of England has given its decision that the provincial Sunday laws of Canada were ultra vires; and before coming to introduce to parliament a Sunday law, the Hon. C. Fitzpatrick, then minister of justice, prepared a draft provincial law and submitted it to the Supreme court of Canada, with the result that such legislation was declared incompetent for the provinces. From the decision of the Supreme court the minister of justice begged leave to appeal to the judicial committee of the Privy Council of England. The request was refused, and the judgment of the Supreme court was, therefore, upheld. In view of these decisions, and notwithstanding the example set by the province of Quebec, it would seem inconsiderate on the part of any province to attempt direct Sunday legislation.

(d) Assuming that the question of the power of the provinces to pass Lord's day legislation has not been settled, and that there is still ground for believing, though it may be seriously doubted, that this province may enact a Sunday law, we believe the reasonable course for the government to pursue, and one that would commend itself to the public as fair, would be to prepare a draft bill, and, according to the terms of the "Act Regarding the Constitution, Practice and Procedure of the Supreme Court of British Columbia," submit the draft legislation to that court for judgment.

Responsibility of the Attorney-General.

(a) Whatever responsibility the "Dominion Lord's Day Act"—in terms of section 15—places upon the Attorney-General, we submit, is fixed upon him and not upon the provincial government. The Attorney-General, we believe, as the designated officer for the administration of the "Dominion Lord's Day Act," has an obligation to discharge, for which he is solely responsible, and from which no action of the provincial government can accord him release.

(b) Our view further is, that the Attorney-General, by virtue of his office, has no option but to give consent to prosecutions under the Dominion law, unless the alleged offences shall appear as not properly coming under the act, or the prosecutions shall be shown to be petty or malicious, or for other cause malicious, or the intent of the law is not that the Attorney-General shall have absolute veto power, but that he shall secure the just administration of the act.

Our conviction, therefore, upon this point is that, notwithstanding the present attitude or the contemplated action of any provincial government, the "Dominion Lord's Day Act" is now in force; and should there, in any province, be failure to give it effect through the refusal of the Attorney-General to give assent to prosecutions, the responsibility of that refusal would rest wholely with the Attorney-General; and that such refusal can be justified only by cause shown in the specific prosecution in relation to which consent is withheld.

General Considerations.

We beg to submit the following as indicating that no obstacle should be placed in the way of the "Dominion Lord's Day Act" being applied to British Columbia:

(a) In principle and in the general scope of the act, it unquestionably represents the sentiment of Canada.

(b) Whilst there may be a disposition to condemn specific clauses of the act, and certain interests may feel aggrieved, it is to be remembered that for fully four months the matter was before the Dominion parliament, and every interest had its opportunity to be heard both before the committee and the House.

(c) That in scope and principle, we believe, this law represents the predominant sentiment in British Columbia; that the bulk of all objections to the act that have found public expression have been based upon ignorance of its requirements.

(d) That the particular sentiments attributed to many in British Columbia, and the commercial and industrial interests of the province meet with generous consideration under the terms of this enactment.

(e) That a splendid opportunity, we submit, is now afforded this legislature to strengthen the sentiment in favor of an institution that has its authority, not from the Bible and the church merely, but from natural law and history, and whose worth to the nation, though inadequately conceived by many, is nevertheless, in the opinion of the greatest minds, real, immeasureable and enduring.

In the name of the Alliance,

W. M. ROCHESTER,
Western Secretary L. D. A.

Victoria, B. C., March 8th, 1907.

STRIKE OF ELECTRICIANS.

Paris Was in Darkness For Several Hours on Saturday Night—Men Receive Concessions.

Paris, March 9.—The strike of the electricians of the city of Paris, which threw the city into obscurity for the better part of last night, has come to an end as abruptly as it began. Through the intermediation of M. Deselves, the prefect of the Seine, the electrical companies have conceded the principal demands of the workmen in the matter of pensions, and have agreed that they shall be placed on the footing of the men employed by the city as regards hours and wages. The strikers will go back to work to-morrow.

At 11 o'clock to-night one of the electrical companies, with the assistance of firemen, succeeded in generating sufficient current to light the central districts of the city and to run the newspaper presses. Up to this hour the boulevards and the cafes had been but dimly lighted with Chinese lanterns, while the use of candles stuck in bottles in the restaurants presented a forlorn sight. A drenching rain fell to-night, and only a few of the theatres were open.

The strike resulted early this morning in a serious flood in the tunnel of the Paris subway system in course of construction on the south side of the Seine. The reason for the inflow of water with that the electric pumps ceased working. There is over 12 feet of water for a long distance in the subway, and it is feared that the sides and roof of the tunnel will fall in. The men who were at work in the tunnel at the time of the flood made their escape hurriedly, and had to leave behind their tools and other property.

COMING CONVENTION.

National Council of Women Delegates Will Visit Victoria During June.

The delegates to the National Council of Women will, it is expected, pay a visit to the city of Victoria during the time they are on the coast attending the convention which is to be held in Vancouver.

The probable date of the convention is June 22nd. The C. P. R. will be asked to make special rates for those attending from the East. Delegates are in fact expected from all parts of the continent.

The Vancouver branch held a meeting recently to make arrangements for the convention, appointing a number of committees.

New Westminster council will assist in entertaining the delegates. The Victoria council, it was reported, would also assist, and would invite the delegates to visit the capital.

The Companions of the Foresters, the women's branch of the I. O. F., will also affiliate with the local councils.

LABOR LEADERS TO MEET.

On Monday Will Discuss Labor Shortage—Public Meeting to Be Called.

Some days ago the Laborers' Protective Association drafted the following resolution which will be placed before a joint meeting of the executives of the Trades and Labor Council and the Laborers' Protective Association of this city:

"Resolved, that the Victoria Laborers' Protective Union disapproves of the method adopted by the Board of Trade of Victoria, B. C., in appointing a committee to hold secret sessions to investigate the alleged scarcity of labor, and from the result of its secret investigation to compile a report and forward the same with petitions from other sources to His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, for the avowed purpose of having the prohibitory $500 head tax on Chinese reduced.

"And be it further resolved, that we are in favor of a royal commission to investigate the alleged scarcity of labor in British Columbia as the best method that can be adopted, that would conduce to the general welfare of all concerned."

An effort is to be made to have a public discussion of this question, and also of the immigration question as well. In all probability two meetings will be held, one under the auspices of the Trades and Labor Council and the other under that of the Protective Union.

The committee which will represent the Protective Union at Monday evening's meeting is as follows: W. McKay, J. Sullivan and A. R. Sherk. The Trades and Labor Council will be represented by J. C. Watters, S. Sivertz, R. Ryan and August Herburger.

BUYS NELSON HOTEL.

Nelson, March 6.—The Strathcona hotel, the oldest first-class hotel in the interior, was sold to-day for $40,000 cash to R. G. Webb, formerly of Perth, Australia. Mr. Webb takes possession on Monday, and will manage the property personally. He will make a substantial addition to the present building in the spring. The house was built in 1891, and was conducted by E. E. Phair as the hotel Phair until 1903, when a new manager came in and the name was changed.

SEVEN MEN DROWNED.

St. John's, Nfld., March 8.—A blizzard has raged throughout Newfoundland for the past forty-eight hours, blockading railways and damaging shipping. An unknown fishing vessel with a crew of seven men foundered on the south coast of the island and all hands were lost. The gale drove three schooners seaward, and their crews were obliged to abandon them to save their lives. Business is at a standstill in many places.

THE MINING INSTITUTE.

F. Keffer Elected President and W. F. Robertson One of Vice-Presidents.

Toronto, March 8.—At the Canadian Mining Institute to-day the election of officers resulted as follows, and when announced the result was received with applause: President, Frederick Keffer, Greenwood, B. C.; vice-presidents, Dr. J. Bonsell Porter, Montreal; W. G. Miller, Toronto; W. Fleet Robertson, Victoria, B. C.; secretary, H. Mortimer Lamb, Montreal; treasurer, J. Stevenson Brown, Montreal; council, F. W. Gillam, Montreal; Jas. McEvoy, Fernie, B. C.; Frank B. Smith, Edmonton; R. W. Brock, Ottawa; J. C. Gwillim, Kingston; Dr. F. D. Adams, Montreal; H. E. T. Haultain, Craigmont; and David H. Browne, Copper Cliff.

—That portion of Beacon Hill park lying between the park drive and South Park street has been turned over to the Victoria National History Association for beautification. Under the superintendence of E. B. Wallace, of Flewin's Gardens, a large number of indigenous plants, shrubs, etc., will be planted therein. Small lakes will be formed among the rocks. Walks will be laid out and Victoria will have another delightful recreation ground in the course of time.

WOMAN SUFF IS POS

THE BILL TALKED T DEATH IN

The Suffragists Pass Condemning Attitud ernment and Parl

London, March 8.—The the right of suffrage to w feated in the House of day, where it was talked out coming to a vote. T of the bill make a determ to obtain a vote, but th clined to accept a motio and the sitting of the closed automatically at afternoon. The bill is th the present session.

The debate was a rep familiar arguments for female suffrage, and the plete divergence from th lines, the rejection of th moved by Mr. White, another opponent being also a Liberal, while b tives and members of th were found among its s

The result was not su to the suffragists, as strongest sympathizers women's cause realized tion was not ripe for l that parliament was not to deal with the questi comes a definite issue election.

The suffragists, howev daunted, and to-night enthusiastic meeting a Resolutions condemning of the government and and expressing determin on the agitation were speakers at to-night's me James Keir Hardie, Soc of the House of Com Snowdon, M. P., a new women's cause; Rev. C who was pastor of Pem Liverpool, and who has call to the pastorate Avenue Baptist church, Israel Zangwill, the prom as well as many of t suffragists.

TWO DEATH

E. Cochrane, M. P., Die Col. MacLennan, Ex-M ed Away at Cor

Ottawa, March 8.—Edw M. P., Northumberland the Protestant general morning. He was suffe cancer growth in the t some time he had to be He was 73 years of age elected to the House o 1882, and with exceptio sion in 1887, represented ency ever since.

Col. R. R. MacLennan, for a time represented the House, died at Corny ing. He was a successfu tractor.

HOTEL, STORE DWELLING DE

Fire at Chemainus Number of Persons row Escap

Chemainus, March 9.—F out here last night abou stroyed the Lewisville H proprietor; the Lewisvill A. H. Lewis, proprietor, residence.

Nothing was saved exc from the residence. Th hotel lost their belongin heavy, while the insuranc

The hotel guests had Mr. Hagen, who returned in order to secure his forced to jump from the s broke his wrist, sprained sprained his back. He the hospital.

THE MINING IN

Annual Meeting of the tute at Tor

Toronto, March 6.—A dred delegates from va Canada are in attendan annual meeting of the ing Institute, which op ing at the King Edw Smith, M. P. P., of T Quebec, occupied the dent of the institute. the president pointed opment had taken plac industry of Canada years, and expressed th time would soon come would have smelters treating ores at home, ing to ship them to th for treatment.

BANK CLEA

Winnipeg, March 7.— just closed the gain clearings is exceptio that traffic has largel ness. The gain for per cent. The total is 030 than for the corr last year. The rate er than the average o totals were: Week en $10,194,468; correspond $7,365,433, correspond $5,475,598.

A Crimean veteran ton, who has just died age of eighty years, whole of the Crimean ed, but lost his right ar while at work as a lab