Provincial Legislature

Want of Confidence Motion Defeated Yesterday by Majority of Nine.

Bill to Amend the Coal Mines Regulations Act Finally Passed.

Land Act Amendment and Other Important Bills Considered.

Thursday, April 6.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock and after the customary exercises the following was the order of business:

Reports

Mr. Ross, as chairman of the private bills committee, recommended a bill to incorporate the Royal Canadian Life Insurance Co.

Questions

Mr. Taylor asked: 1. Is the provincial government responsible for the maintenance of the lepers' station, Darcy island? 2. If so, since when? 3. Were any supplies furnished to said institution by Mr. W. G. Cameron, senior member in this legislature for Victoria, since its maintenance has been in the hands of the government? 4. If so, what sum or sums have been paid Mr. Cameron for said supplies? 5. Was Mr. Cameron at the time of above transaction an alderman for Victoria city?

Hon. Mr. Tatlow replied: 1. Yes. 2. Since Oct. 1, 1903. 3. Yes. 4. $3 and $40. 5. I have no official knowledge on the subject.

Motions

Mr. Oliver moved: Whereas, it is in the public interest that there should be reserved a portion of every coal area in the province of British Columbia as a protection for the people of British Columbia as against any combination of coal mine owners to extort excessive prices for their coal, and so to establish a reserve from which future supplies may be obtained in case of need; and

Whereas, the platform of the Conservative party adopted at Revelstoke on Sept. 13, 1902, contained this statement: "That a portion of every coal area hereafter to be disposed of should be reserved from sale or lease, so that state-owned mines may be easily accessible, if their operation becomes necessary or advisable."

And whereas, the present Conservative government appealed to the electorate of British Columbia at the last general election for support on account of the policy outlined in the platform before mentioned; and

Whereas, on the 13th day of February, 1905, Mr. Oliver asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:

"1. Has the government reserved any areas of coal lands?

2. If so, what areas of coal lands have been reserved?

3. What was area so reserved?

"4. Where are the lands reserved located?

"5. For what purpose was the reservation made?

"6. What was the date of reservation?"

And the Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:

"1. No.

"2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. Answered by the reply to No. 1."

And whereas, on the 15th day of February, 1905, Mr. King asked the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:

"How many coal licenses were issued in each electoral district during the year 1904, and the amount of revenue derived?"

And the Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:

	No. of Licenses Issued.	Revenue.
Yale	63	$ 4,500
Similkameen	29	2,700
Atlin	13	650
Skeena	55	5,000
Cariboo	4	400
Comox	9	900
Alberni	5	500
Kamloops	2	200
Fernie	770	73,650"

And whereas the above statements show that 950 licences were issued during the year 1904, covering approximately an area of 608,000 acres; and

Whereas the government has taken no steps to reserve portions of coal areas as contemplated by said platform, or to redeem its pledges to the electorate;

Therefore be it resolved, That this House has no confidence in the present administration.

The resolution was put to a vote, without debate, and was defeated, the House dividing as follows:

Yeas: Messieurs King, Brown, Murphy, Jones, Evans, Tanner, Oliver, J. A. Macdonald, Henderson, Munro, Paterson, Hall, Cameron—13.

Nays: Messieurs Davidson, Ellison, Hawthornthwaite, Williams, Clifford, Bowser, Tatlow, Fraser, McBride, Ross, Wilson, A. McDonald, Green, Young, Fulton, Gifford, Garden, Macgowan, Taylor, Shatford, Wright, Grant—22.

Coal Mines Regulation Act

Upon the order for the third reading of Mr. Hawthornthwaite's bill to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act.

Mr. Wright, who on a previous day had moved the adjournment of the debate on an amendment proposed by Mr. Hall, said he had no observations to make except that the bill was, in his estimation, in the public interests, and that he intended to support it.

Mr. Hall's amendment provided that section 3 of the Coal Mines Regulation Act Amendment Act, 1903, is hereby repealed and the following is substituted therefor:

3. "Bank," for the purposes of this act, shall mean the surface entrance to a mine, except in the case of a vertical shaft, when it shall mean the foot of the shaft.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite opposed the amendment. He claimed that it was inspired by the coal barons of the province in order to destroy the bill. In justification for the measure he repeated his argument that conditions had altered since last year. The mines had changed hands and the management of Mr. Robins had been succeeded by that of an ordinary thin-lipped labor skinner. He argued that pressure had been exerted to compel the miners to conform to views contrary to the position taken by him in the House, but that the miners had passed a resolution in effect that they wanted an eight hour day from bank to bank and nothing else. The contrary view was supported by certain merchants, members of the Nanaimo board of trade, who were doing business with the miners at a large profit. He denied that Mr. Dunsmuir had ever signed a telegram that his mines would be closed down if this bill passed the House. He was not such a fool as long as he could put millions in his pocket as he had done before by working them. The Island mines were behind the times in the matter of equipment for conveying men up and down the shaft. If they were properly equipped the loss of time transferring the shifts would be inconsiderable. The record of lives lost in the coal mines of British Columbia was a bloody one. The loss of life had been very great. It was no wonder, he thought, that Mr. Dunsmuir was unhappy in the possession of the wealth which he had acquired. He made some reference to a delapidated deputation sent to Victoria by the Nanaimo board of trade in opposition to the bill.

Mr. McInnes asked permission to correct some representations which he said the member for Nanaimo had made, but having already spoken on the amendment was not allowed to proceed. He remarked, however, that the delapidated deputation referred to consisted of the Conservative candidate in the last election and one or two other prominent citizens of the Coal City.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite said that the Liberal candidate in Comox, Mr. Young, was also there.

Mr. McInnes replied that Mr. Young had no connection with the deputation, having come to Victoria on other business.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald thought that as the principle of the eight hour law had been assented to last year, it would not be wise to interfere with it.

Mr. Davidson opposed the amendment. The amendment was defeated on the following division:

Yeas: Messieurs McInnes, Drury, Murphy, Evans, Tanner, Munro, Paterson, Wells, Hall, Cameron, Tatlow, Cotton, Ellison, Garden, Grant—15.

Nays: Messieurs King, Brown, McNiven, Davidson, Oliver, J. A. Macdonald, Henderson, Hawthornthwaite, Williams, McBride, Wilson, Bowser, Fraser, Ross, Green, Fulton, Taylor, Wright, Young, Gifford—20.

Dr. Young's bill to amend the Medical Act passed second reading. As already explained it provides that doctors contracting in connection with railway construction work shall be registered in the province.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald's bill to amend the Coal Mines Act passed second reading. Its object is to enable locators to acquire title to lands in Southeast Kootenay, by providing that the county judge shall have power to bring all the applicants before him and render decision as to title.

The bill to amend the Woodman's Lien for Wages Act passed second reading on motion of Mr. Ross, who explained that it was calculated to give employees in the lumber industry the rights already possessed by other classes of labor.

On motion of Mr. Macgowan the bill to amend the Municipal Elections Act, as reported by the municipal committee, passed second reading.

Mr. Macgowan also moved the second reading of the bill to amend the Municipal Clauses Act, as brought in by the same committee, and the debate was adjourned on motion of Mr. Bowser.

Supply Passed

The resolutions giving effect to the passage of the various items passed in committee of supply were formally read by the clerk and adopted, in committee of the whole, and were finally passed.

The bill to regulate immigration into British Columbia passed third reading.

The bill to adjust the dyking assessments was adopted on report. The bill to amend the Investment and Loan Societies Act passed its final stage.

The bill to amend the Trustees and Executors Act was considered in committee of the whole, and reported complete without amendment; also the bill to amend the Companies Act.

Hon. Mr. Green moved the second reading of the bill to amend the Land Act. He explained under present conditions complaint had arisen with lumber men that their title to timber lands under license was not sufficiently secure, the renewal of the licenses being subject to the will of the government from year to year. The bill provided that licenses now in existence should be absolutely renewable for sixteen years, for which concession the timber men were under agreement to pay ten cents per thousand for the timber cut in addition to the ordinary changes under the Act. After the lapse of sixteen years these licenses would come under the law for new licenses and the ordinary course with respect to the same would be followed. The government would have power to put the licenses up to competition, and they would be renewable from year to year, subject to any conditions which might be imposed by the Legislature from time to time.

Mr. Wells moved the adjournment of the debate.

The House rose.

Notes

A deputation of lumbermen from Vancouver is here to oppose Mr. Hawthornthwaite's bill to increase from $1500 to $2000 the amount recoverable under the Workmen's Compensation Act. They are also opposing the bill to amend the Master and Servant Act, introduced by Mr. Hawthornthwaite, which stipulates amongst other things that wages to employees shall be paid weekly. One point against this latter measure is that in the case of logging camps and other similar institutions a weekly payment of wages would be impossible. Mr. R. H. Alexander, manager of the Hastings mill, and Mr. Hackett, of Robertson & Hackett, are accompanying the deputation.

The House reassembled at 8:30 p. m. when the following bills were introduced and read a first time: A bill to amend the Municipal Clauses Act, a bill to amend the Farmers' Institute and Co-operation Act, a bill respecting provincial land surveyors, a bill to amend the Supreme Court Act, a bill to further amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act; and a bill relating to the employment on works carried on under franchises granted by private acts.

Dr. Young's bill to amend the Medical Act passed third reading.

Resolutions

Mr. Taylor moved that an order of the House be granted for a return of all correspondence since June 30, 1900, between the government of British Columbia, or any members thereof, and any person or persons, corporation or corporations, relating to the construction of a railway from the Coast to Kootenay, and particularly all correspondence relating to offers respecting such enterprise from the following companies: 1. The Olalla Railway Co. 2. The Victoria, Vancouver & Eastern Railway Co. 3. The Coast and Kootenay Railway Co. 4. The Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Mr. Henderson moved that an order of the House be granted for a return of a copy of the contract entered into by the province with the Vancouver, Victoria & Eastern Railway and Steamboat Co., about lease of New Westminster bridge; a copy of the guarantee of payment of rent by Great Northern Railway Co., and a copy of the order in council approving same. Carried.

Municipal Elections

The bill to amend the Municipal Elections Act was committed, Mr. Murphy in the chair. It was reported complete and read a third time. The principal feature of the bill is the definition of householder which is extended to include every person who holds and occupies a dwelling, tenement, hotel or boarding house, or any part or portion of a dwelling, tenement, hotel or boarding house within a municipality, who has paid directly to the municipality rates, taxes, or fees of not less than two dollars, during the current year.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald moved the second reading of a bill to amend the Placer Mining Act. It is calculated to remove difficulties which have arisen owing to the overlapping of mineral and placer claims. The size of a placer claim in dry diggings is altered "to be 250 feet wide, measured along the general course of the stream or ravine, and 1,000 feet long, measured at right angles thereto."

Dr. Young agreed to support the second reading of the bill, suggesting that he would have some amendments to offer when it was considered in committee of the whole.

Mr. Murphy moved the adjournment of the debate.

Dyke Bill Passed

The bill to adjust dyking assessments passed its final stage; also the bill to amend the Trustees and Executors Act.

School Act

The bill to amend and consolidate the Public Schools Act was further considered in committee of the whole, Mr. Macgowan in the chair.

Mr. Williams moved an amendment which proposed that all rural schools within the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway belt, outside of municipalities, shall, for the purpose of the foregoing section, be considered and classed as "assisted schools," but in all other particulars shall be subject to the provisions of this act. He claimed that there were conditions obtaining in this district which justified special consideration. For instance, the lands were not taxable, and settlers possessed surface rights only. They did not own the timber even as small as railway ties.

Mr. Oliver extended a map to the observation of the member for Newcastle on which was delineated certain blocks of railway lands in Southern British Columbia, which, he claimed, were in the same position as the E. & N. railway lands.

Mr. Brown considered the amendment a dangerous one in principle. It meant discrimination in favor of a certain district, and no sufficient ground existed for such discrimination, as there were railway lands similarly situated in various parts of the province.

Hon. Mr. Fulton said he could not see that the settlers within the E. & N. railway belt would be any better off under the proposed amendment than under the act as it stood. At the same time he saw nothing objectionable in the amendment and did not think the treasury would suffer. The people would still have to provide the schools.

Mr. Munro objected to having such a provision in the act as an obligation. The matter of meeting special cases with assistance should be left in the discretion of the Superintendent of Education, and this was already provided for in the act.

Mr. Tanner thought the object sought for by Mr. Williams was covered in section 23 of the bill, which authorized the Education Department to provide for any cases needing special help.

The amendment carried on a show of hands.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald proposed that the province should supply school books to scholars at cost.

Hon. Mr. Cotton pointed out that such an undertaking would occasion a large financial outlay. The printing bureau would have to be reorganized for one thing, and linotype machines would have to be introduced to enable them to turn sary plant were installed it was doubtful if they could supply books as cheaply as old established publishing houses in the East.

Mr. Macdonald consented in view of the objection taken to withdraw the amendment, suggesting at the same time that the government should give serious consideration to the idea.

Hon. Mr. Fulton said that the question had already received some attention. There were questions of copyright and other points which must be considered in connection therewith.

The amendment was withdrawn. The bill was reported complete with amendments.

The bill to amend the Land Act was further considered on the motion for second reading, Mr. Wells suggesting that he had some amendments to offer when it reached the committee stage.

Mr. McInnes questioned the principle of extending the term of the license in the way proposed, remarking that it would enable speculators, simply by planting stakes, to obtain exclusive privileges over large acreages of land. He hoped before the legislation was finally disposed of that it would extend to the general Land Act in such a way as to bring about competition in the disposal of the lands. Granting that the necessity of timber lands, so that their full value would be realized to the province.

The motion passed.

Upon motion for the second reading of the Land Act, Mr. Oliver moved the adjournment of the debate, thinking that the patience of the House had been fairly taxed in the work imposed upon it during the two sessions, and in view of the hour, namely, 12:30 o'clock.

Upon motion for the second reading of the Supply Bill, Mr. J. A. Macdonald moved the adjournment of the debate, but the motion was defeated. The bill was accordingly advanced a stage.

The premier, by permission of the House, introduced a bill, which he explained was of a purely formal nature, to enable the Victoria Terminal Railway and the New Westminster Southern Railway to transfer their property to the Vancouver, Victoria & Eastern Railway Co.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald at first objected to the bill, but upon assurance from the premier that it would be withdrawn if found to be objectionable, assented to its introduction.

The House rose at 1:30 o'clock.

Notes

The probabilities are that the Legislature will reach prorogation within a few days, at any rate before the close of another week. All the important measures are now either through or in such an advanced state that their final passage can be consummated in a day, particularly in view of the fact that two separate sessions are being held.

Mr. Price Ellison left for home last night.

GERMANY DID NOT KNOW.

Anglo-French Agreement Was Not Communicated to Kaiser.

London, April 6.—Earl Percy, under secretary of foreign affairs, informed questioners in the House of Commons today that the Anglo-French agreement of April 8, 1904, was never officially communicated to Germany, nor had any communications on the subject passed between Great Britain and Germany except in reference to the Hedivial decree (dealing with the Egyptian part of the agreement). The Sultan of Morocco, said Earl Percy, was not a party to the Anglo-French declaration which was an independent arrangement between Great Britain and France for dealing with their respective interests in Morocco. Asked if Germany's treaty with Morocco secured for her special commercial rights and privileges, Earl Percy said the German-Moroccan treaties of 1890 were analogous to the Anglo-Moroccan treaties of 1856.

THE EQUITABLE'S EMUETE.

Directors Foregather and Discuss Mutualization "Harmoniously."

New York, April 6.—Out of the fifty members of the board of directors of the Equitable Life Assurance Society thirty-eight assembled in the company's board room this afternoon, and, after an hour and thirty minutes of discussion, in the course of which it is understood the whole Equitable controversy was gone over, announcement was made that those present unanimously had decided to adopt the two years' mutualization plan announced several days ago.

Rumors of resignation did not bear fruit, and it was authoritatively said this evening that none was tendered.

"Everything harmonious" was the tenor of the official statement issued after the meeting by Senator Chauncey M. Depew and Cornelius Bliss. This announcement also said that a committee of directors would thoroughly investigate the company's management. President Alexander of the company and James Hyde were present, and it is notable that many of the directors came from a distance in order to attend the session.

During today's meeting there were various rumors of a controversy between Mr. Hyde and Mr. Alexander, but so far as known nothing of this kind occurred.

HALL MINES SMELTER.

Company Expect to Keep One Lead Stack in Operation.

Nelson, April 6.—The Hall Mining and Smelting Co. say today that the outlook for the ore supply has improved and that they may be able to keep one lead stack in operation.

Two reasons assigned for the ore shortage from the Slocan mines are: The unprecedented shortage of water during the winter, which has seriously interfered with the operation of all the concentrating mills, and the unusually early warm weather breaking up the mountain roads and trails. It is hoped at the local smelter that there will be no interruption for at least one lead stack.

King Edward's Visit to France

Interpreted as Conspicuous Response to Germany's Action in Morocco.

Extreme Cordiality Marks Meeting of Rulers With Absence of Reserve.

French Press Hails With Acclaim Strengthening of Anglo-French Entente.

PARIS, April 6.—The arrival of King Edward in Paris today was the occasion for a notable manifestation of Anglo-French cordiality, which is being interpreted as a conspicuous response to Germany's action towards Morocco, although the King remained but a short time. He was met outside the city by President Loubet, who held a private conversation with His Majesty, lasting nearly an hour. A semi-official outgiven report is that the meeting had far less reserve than that between King Edward and President Loubet last year, and that it was marked by the freedom of the confidence exchanged. Beyond this private conversation King Edward confined himself to the usual public expression of good-will. He spoke at the station of the pleasure a visit to France always gave him.

President Loubet joined the royal train at Pierrefitte station, where, surrounded by distinguished officials of both governments, the two rulers exchanged greetings. The King conducted President Loubet to his private car, where conversation continued until the Lyons railway station was reached. Outside the station the crowd was held back by cordons of police. During the half hour at the station King Edward continued to talk with President Loubet and held an extended conference with the British ambassador to France, Sir Francis Levison Bertl.

King Edward left Paris at 7:10 o'clock for Marseilles, where he will join Queen Alexandra on board the royal yacht Victoria and Albert.

Semi-Official Announcement

The semi-official communication relative to the meeting of King Edward and President Loubet says: "It is natural to suppose the conversation between the King and the President led to an exchange of views upon all diplomatic questions of the day; but as neither divulged the confidences, it is necessary to receive with reserve the more or less ingenious versions which will be placed in circulation. Judging, however, from external appearances, one cannot but remark that the meeting today was marked not only by less reserve than that of last year, but notably by the greater freedom of the confidences exchanged."

The public and press, however, herald the meeting as significant. The Journal Des Debate says: "It is a new affirmation of the Anglo-French entente, which will be followed by naval demonstrations by British and French squadrons."

This, says the Debate, is the response to the attitude Germany has taken towards France, and the paper adds: "It will be imprudent if statesmen at Berlin fail to observe this particularly conspicuous reaffirmation of the Anglo-French entente."

The Temps also says that the interview emphasizes the endurance of the Anglo-French entente.

The effect of the visit appears to be to strengthen the determination to proceed with France's policy in Morocco in accordance with the terms of the Anglo-French agreement, as the visit is construed as a timely expression from the signatories of that agreement.

AMERICAN TOBACCO COMPANY.

Trenton, N. J., April 6.—George August Belling, of Bayonne, today filed a bill in chancery to compel the American Tobacco Company, incorporated in 1890, to assign to him his stock in that company. The suit involves an attack upon the merger of the American Tobacco Company and other companies.

NAPLES IS EN FETE.

Gala Crowds Welcome King Victor Emmanuel as a Visitor.

Naples, April 6.—King Victor Emmanuel arrived here today from Rome, accompanied by Foreign Minister Tittoni and Naval Minister Mirabello, to meet Emperor William. The harbor presented a magnificent spectacle. A squadron anchored around the imperial craft was crowded with thousands of spectators. The royal launch approached the Hohenzollern amidst booming of cannon and with the sailors cheering the Germans. It was reported later that Emperor William and King Victor Emmanuel conversed lengthily about the international chamber of agriculture planned by the latter, who had previously been openly congratulated on the subject by all the European sovereigns with the exception of Emperor William.

A gala dinner was given at the royal pavilion tonight in honor of Emperor William. King Victor Emmanuel, toasting the German Emperor, recalled the recent presence in Italy of two of the German princes, and said that on their arrival the Queen and he had been glad to meet and welcome them. "These," said the King, "are reciprocal bonds of intimate affection, which for two allied peoples are pledges of peace and a prosperous future."

Emperor William answered in German. He thanked the King for the recognition given the Empress of Germany and Princes Eitel and Oscar and continued: "The triple alliance is a sure and solid pledge of peace. Under its protection our people, allied, march happily towards a future of constant progress, firmly trusting to the loyal alliance and intimate friendship of Italy and her august sovereign."

Several interesting anecdotes are already circulating here in connection with Emperor William's visit to Naples. The most characteristic is that regarding Captain Kaompff of the steamer Deutschland, at present in command of the steamer Hamburg on which the Emperor came to Naples His Majesty knew that Captain Kaompff had recently met President Roosevelt and held in his cabin the President's autograph photograph. When the Emperor left Hamburg he gave Kaompff as a parting gift his autograph photograph in a gold frame, saying: "When you receive your pretty American lady friends in the cabin of the Deutschland, I want to be there too."

NAN PATTERSON WITNESSES.

Morgan Smith and Wife Held as Guests by Cincinnati Jailer.

Cincinnati, April 6.—By order of District Attorney Jerome of New York, Morgan Smith and wife were today placed on the list of guests instead of prisoners at the jail. They are still detained under arrest, but they are to have the best board the market affords, and otherwise he allowed everything which they have been accustomed to, except their liberty.

DIFFERENTIAL CASE ARGUED.

Washington, April 6.—Arguments in the "differential case" which are being heard by the inter-state commerce commission, as an arbitration tribunal, were concluded today. Silas W. Petit, counsel for the Chamber of Commerce of Philadelphia, concluded his argument today in support of differentials. He maintained that Philadelphia, by reason of its geographical location, was entitled to a lower rate on ex-lake grain than New York or any other far eastern port; that the advantage was natural and not in any way due to favoritism. Mr. Petit was followed by Edgar J. Rich, general solicitor of the Boston and Maine railway, in opposing the differentials. Arthur G. Browns, representing the commercial interests of Baltimore, concluded the argument in favor of the differentials.

FERMENT IN RUSSIA.*

Southeast in Great Excitement and Catastrophe Feared.

Samara, Government of Samara, Southeastern Russia, April 6.—The exchange here representing commercial citizens over a region inhabited by 7,000,000 people, has telegraphed to M. Bouligan, minister of the interior, that the whole area is in a condition of extreme excitement, and that a terrible catastrophe is only averted by immediate summoning representatives of the people in accordance with the imperial rescript.

The exchange also demands representation upon the commission which is considering the subject. The peasants are greatly aroused over the reports that the "Intellectuals' are seeking to return them to a condition of slavery.

Moscow, April 6.—A general meeting of representatives of the higher schools of Russia here today adopted a series of strong resolutions not only demanding a revision of the educational system of the empire, including freeing the schools and universities from government control, but declaring for a constitutional regime.

St. Petersburg, April 6.—The Zemstvos of the government of Orloff have telegraphed to Minister of the Interior Bouligan demanding that the government be directed to revoke the order of prohibition of petitions on the subject of the imperial rescript.

TOO OBVIOUS FAWNING.

Germany's Extreme Solicitude for American Support Excites Comment.

London, April 6.—(7:35 p. m.)—The British government has not received from Count Wolff-Metternich, the German ambassador, or any other source, a memorandum regarding Morocco similar to that handed to Secretary Taft by Baron Von Speck Sternburg yesterday. Germany's action in singling out the United States for an official notification of her attitude towards Morocco has created some feeling in official circles, where no attempt is made to conceal the leaning of Great Britain toward France in the Moroccan crisis The memorandum to the American government is generally regarded in London as a bid on the part of Germany for the United States sympathy and support in maintaining the open door and the status quo. While there is intense interest in the situation, and the Moroccan question is discussed in all its phases in diplomatic circles, the British government is not taking any part in it, merely waiting the next move. A well-informed official of the British government informed the Associated Press today that France would continue her policy in Morocco, and it is firmly believed that the next step on the part of France is likely to develop a climax, and bring the situation to a head.

Washington, D. C., April 6.—(2:35 p m.)—The French ambassador, Jusserand, called on Secretary Taft today to make enquiry relative to the visit of the German ambassador yesterday and the representations that the latter made relative to Morocco. He was informed that Baron Von Speck Sternberg's note had been forwarded to the President M. Jusserand assured Secretary Taft that the "open door" was the policy in Morocco now and there were no intentions on the part of the French government to alter that policy.

Berlin, April 6.—The report of the appointment of Privy Councillor Dr. Rosen, who until recently was special envoy of Germany at the court of King Menelik of Abyssinia, as German minister in Morocco in succession to the deceased Baron Von Mentzingen, has been confirmed. Dr. Rosen, however, does not know of his appointment. He is somewhere between Berlin and King Menelik's court, returning from his imperial mission. Dr. Rosen, who has a deep, scholarly knowledge of ancient and modern Oriental languages, is reported to know more of the present day Orient civilization than any living German. He is also personally sympathetic to Orientals and his easy and complete acquaintance with the Arabic tongue and manners is expected to make him personally the most influential foreign diplomat in Morocco. There is every indication that Germany designs to hold on tenaciously to her policy towards Morocco.

POLICE INVESTIGATE VOLCANO.

Chief and Two Constables of St. Vincent Relate Strange Adventure.

Kingstown, Island of St. Vincent, April 6.—In view of the fact that earthquake shocks were experienced on the islands of St. Christopher, Dominica and Antiqua and at Point a Pitre, Guadaloupe, and of the prevalence of intense heat there, the chief of police and two constables on April 3 made the ascent of La Sonariere. They report that they found the area of the lake diminished and that they met with water green and boiling on the north side, steam rising for the first time since the great eruption of 1896.

Steam was also rising from a large crack in the lip of the crater and from numerous fissures on the side of the crater. The party was alarmed by a sudden disturbance which caused the water to change color to a dirty red. As the subterranean activity seemed to be increasing, the party hastened away.

JAPS ON MANDARIN ROAD.

Russians Dislodge Force of Infantry and Routed.

St. Petersburg, April 6.—A despatch to the war office from Chief of Staff Karkevitch, dated today, says that a Russian-Korean detachment attacked a Japanese force of infantry about five miles from Gilchjiou (Kiljup) and that the Japanese were dislodged from two positions and routed by the Russian force and Cossack attack. The despatch adds that the Japanese detachments have appeared on the Mandarin road between Shangtufu and Maimaikaii on the Russian front.

NORTHERN SECURITIES CASE.

New York, April 6.—It was learned today that the Harriman interests have gone over the Supreme court opinion in the Northern Securities case, and had determined to make no motion in the interval before April 17, fixed by the court for such action. Mr. Harriman and his associates now consider the Northern Securities litigation ended.

GREATER PITTSBURG.

Harrisburg, Pa., April 6.—The Senate today unanimously passed finally the Greater Pittsburg bill, providing for the consolidation of Pittsburg and Allegheny. It now goes to the governor.

WEEKLY WEATHER SYNOPSIS.

Victoria Meteorological Office,
March 29 to April 4, 1905.

The weather during the first half of the week was unsettled and cold in most districts; snow fell on the Coast mountain ranges and light flurries on the lower Mainland; light to sharp night frosts occurred at numerous stations throughout the North Pacific slope; rain fell in Vancouver Island and other parts of the province, and heavy showers in the Pacific states. The latter part of the week, however, was exceptionally fine, and springlike conditions have prevailed, and yesterday the weather was much warmer in all districts. The Victoria bright sunshine record has increased to 45 hours, the daily amount ranging from 3 to 10 hours, only one day being completely clouded. The winds have been chiefly light to moderate, the direction being southerly the first part and northerly the remainder of the week. A high barometer area covered the North Pacific slope for several days, its movement affording fine weather throughout the province, but it has gradually moved southward to Colorado, and has been succeeded by a lower pressure, indicating an ocean disturbance approaching the Vancouver Island coast, and which has already caused rainfall in Cassiar.

At Victoria the bright sunshine record was 44 hours and 48 minutes; the highest temperature was 62.0 on the 4th; the lowest, 31.3 on the 29th; rainfall, 0.06 inch.

At New Westminster, highest temperature, 70.0 on the 4th; lowest, 30.0 on the 30th; rainfall, 0.80 inch.

At Kamloops, highest temperature, 60.0 on the 3rd and 4th; lowest, 24.0 on the 30th; no precipitation.

At Barkerville, highest temperature, 56.0 on the 4th; lowest, 12.0 on the 3rd; snow, 3 inches.

At Port Simpson, highest temperature, 64.0 on the 4th; lowest, 34.0 on the 31st; rain, 1.72 inches.

At Dawson, highest temperature, 46.0 on the 4th; lowest, 8.0 on the 30th; no precipitation.

SOCIAL REVOLUTIONARY PARTY.

Programme of Russian Anarchists Contains Familiar Phrases.

Moscow, April 6.—The central committee of the social revolutionary party has drawn up a document containing the main points of its programme, and of this hundreds of thousands of copies are being printed for circulation in all parts of European Russia. The first and main point of the programme is the establishment of a democratic republic on the ruins of the autocracy, and besides the usual points of social democratic doctrine it includes many arguments, especially directed to Russian conditions and designed to appeal to the self-interest of the Russian proletariat, both agricultural and industrial. It voices phrases familiar to the American ear, such as "initiative and referendum," "public ownership of public utilities," etc.

The document closes with a warning to industrials against "state socialism," which it declares to be a system of half measures, deluding workers, concentrating industries and commerce in the hands of the governing bureaucracy, and urging the summoning of a constituent assembly, wherein it proposes to conduct the campaign for the dissolution of the autocratic regime and the transformation of the existing orders.

THE EARTHQUAKE IN INDIA.

Viceroy Reports Great Loss of Life and Much Damage.

London, April 6.—Mr. Brodrick, secretary of state for India, today received this despatch from Lord Curzon of Keddleston, viceroy of India: "Earthquake felt ashore! several large buildings damaged; twenty-five deaths reported so far in the city of Dharmsala. The cantonment and civil station are reported to have been practically destroyed; houses and bazaars are levelled to the ground. The loss of life is not yet known accurately, but at least nine Europeans are killed. Relief party has been despatched by the local government."

Calcutta, April 6.—No further shocks of earthquake have been reported today, and it is believed that the danger is past. The natives, however, everywhere are still apprehensive and are only slowly regaining sufficient confidence to permit them to sleep indoors. The latest despatches from various towns report damage to houses but no further fatalities. It is evident that the worst is known. In Madras the shocks were felt lightly. In Simla the damage was confined to houses and property. The vice-regal lodge suffered slightly.

MORMON CHURCH APOSTLES.

Conference of Latter Day Saints Discloses Schism.

Salt Lake, Utah, April 6.—Joseph F. Smith was today sustained as prophet, seer and revelator of the Mormon church by unanimous vote of the members at the opening session of the seventy-fifth annual conference. When a vote was taken to sustain the twelve apostles, two hands were raised in dissent. One of the dissenters rose to explain his vote, but was not permitted to speak. President Smith merely said that he could present his objections to the proper authorities. This incident created excitement. The members who dissented afterwards said that they desired to protest against sustaining such officers of the church as live in polygamy.

Among the apostles sustained were apostles Taylor and Cowley. In his testimony before the senate investigating committee at Washington, Senator Smoot said that an investigation was being made by the church into the charges that these two apostles had taken polygamous wives since the manifesto, and that if the charges were proved he would not vote to sustain Taylor and Cowley. Senator Smoot was not present today, nor were apostles Taylor or Cowley.

THE VOYAGE OF A BOTTLE.

In May, 1903, when Colonel Swalm, United States consul at Southampton, was on his way from Montevideo to England, via New York, on board the British steamship Tennyson, in latitude 29.30 N., longitude 68.10 W., he threw a bottle overboard containing his card and that of several other passengers, together with the intimation that the person returning the same to him at Southampton would receive £1 reward. On Tuesday Colonel Swalm was informed that the bottle had been found on the Donegal coast, Ireland, near Arranmore, by a Mr. Cail, who has returned the cards. The bottle had evidently been carried by the Gulf Stream along the North American coast, then across the Atlantic to the Irish coast. To travel this distance it had taken 662 days at an approximate speed of five miles a day. Colonel Swalm is sending particulars of the occurrence to the United States hydrographic office. —London Times, March 18.

MANAGEMENT EXONERATED.

Fayetteville, W. Va., April 6.—The coroner's jury empanelled to enquire into the cause of the explosion at Russrun and Redash mines, in which 24 miners lost their lives March 18 and 19 has returned a verdict fully exonerating the mine management and the district mine inspectors.

ERIE WANTS MORE CAPITAL.

Albany, N. Y., April 6.—The Erie Railway Co. this afternoon filed with the secretary of state a certificate of increase of capital stock from $177,000,000 to $197,000,000. The increase is in the common stock, which is increased from $13,000,000 to $133,000,000. The certificate is signed by Frederick Underwood, president, and David Bosman, secretary of the meeting of stockholders.

TOGO'S FLEET SIGHTED.

Chicago, April 6.—A special to the Daily News from Batavia, Java, says: "Togo's fleet was sighted this afternoon south of the island of Mindanao, the southernmost of the Philippine group."

Hot Debate On Sbarretti

Statement of Papal Delegate Subject of Comment by Mr. Borden.

Palpable Connection Between Priestly Overtures and the Ministry.

Sir Wilfrid Displays Great Wrath In Defending His Government.

From Our Own Correspondent.

OTTAWA, April 6.—If yesterday's debate in the Commons was hot, today's has been at blood-heat. The Sbarretti incident, like Banquo's ghost, will not down. In the light of the apostolic delegate's communication, which appeared in the newspapers this morning, it was but natural that Mr. Borden should again call attention to the matter.

The leader of the opposition was moderate but firm in his utterances, and they evidently struck home. No matter how one may look at the question, the inference is obvious that the political expediency argument which the representative of the holy see addressed to Attorney General Campbell was based on a sure foundation, otherwise he never would have ventured to use it. Mr. Borden flatly told Sir Wilfrid that if any minister had given authority to Mgr. Sbarretti to suggest what he did, such minister should be promptly dismissed. This statement was cheered again and again by the opposition.

When the first minister arose, it was evident he was endeavoring to curb his temper, but he had not been speaking many minutes before it got the better of him and his utterances were delivered with manifestations of choler rarely seen in parliament. All he endeavored to do was to clear his own skirts and those of the government from any responsibility for Sbarretti's unwise action.

As Mr. Foster pointed out later on, Premier Laurier and his Roman Catholic associates in the house were responsible for securing the appointment in Canada of a representative of the holy see, and they were ready now to sacrifice him. Quoting from Sir Wilfrid Laurier's letter to Cardinal Rampolla, when the papal delegate's appointment originally was asked for, Mr. Foster pointed out that the settlement of the Manitoba school question, according to the premier, was but a beginning of justice. "Was this," he asked, "the culmination of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's desires? The country would not free the government from responsibility in the Sbarretti matter.

The discussion was continued until the last hour and was marked by great acrimony.

The Esquimalt & Nanaimo bill was called at the railway committee this morning, but by request it went over until next week. It is understood that negotiations are in progress looking to a compromise on the lands exemption clause.

The Senate passed a resolution today protesting against the British embargo on Canadian cattle.

It is reported that ex-Premier Parent's former political friends have thrown him down and he will not be appointed national transcontinental railway commissioner.

In reply to Mr. [illegible] was the first appli[illegible]

Mr. Clifford adr[illegible] endorsed the letter [illegible] F. W. N. Raley [illegible] Mr. Raley was a [illegible] him, and his endo[illegible] troduction, as it w[illegible] ment. He said he [illegible] of business with t[illegible] department and [illegible] wrong.

Mr. Brown asked [illegible] it right that an a[illegible]

A MINIATURE REVOLUTION.

Canea, Island of Crete, April 6.—A revolution has broken out at the eastern extremity of the island at Sitia. The French gunboat Condor has gone there.

SPOTTED FEVER IN GERMANY.

Said to Have Been Raging for Months in Many Districts.

Berlin, April 6.—Spotted fever has been raging for several months in epidemic form in Silesia. About 1,200 cases have occurred in the Opieln district, with about fifty per cent. of fatalities. Sixty cases and nine deaths have been reported from the Breslau district. Seven cases and several deaths are reported from Konitz, West Prussia. Several cases are also announced in Saxony. Schools in the infected districts have been closed.

ADVANCING TOWARD INDIA.

Discovery That Russian Troops Have Replaced Natives on Oxus.

Bombay, April 6.—The Times authentically today states that Russian troops have replaced those of the Ameer of Bokhara at all posts on the upper Oxus in the districts of Shignan and Roshansi, that 4,000 men have been detached from the Merv garrison as a permanent addition to the Kushk and Muraghad river force, and that the deficiency at Merv has been replaced from Orenburg.

A HITCH IN AGREEMENT.

British Government Refuses to Act as Distributor of Venezuelan Money.

London, April 6.—A serious hitch in the agreements recently signed between British and German bondholders and the Venezuelan government threatens to render the scheme for the satisfaction of the former's claims unworkable. A clause in the contract provides that the proportion of the revenues allocated to the bondholders shall be paid to the British legation and consular officials in Venezuela, but the British government refused its consent.

OPEN DOOR IN CHINA.

Russian Officials Criticize Statement Sent Out From Washington.

St. Petersburg, April 6.—(4:15 p. m.)—The publication by Washington of correspondence officially giving Emperor William the credit of inspiring Secretary Hay's note, which resulted in pledging Russia and Japan to limit the area of h