

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE

### COMPULSORY EIGHT-HOUR DAY IN COAL MINES

J. H. Hawthorthwaite's Amendment  
Fixing Penalties for Violation of  
Act Passed the House.

Victoria, April 6th.  
Prayers were read by Rev. J. P. West.

Committee's Report.

The standing committee on private bills and standing orders reported that they had considered the petition of the Royal Canadian Life Insurance Company, and found that the standing rules and orders have not been complied with, inasmuch as there had been no publication. Double fees had been paid. The committee were of the opinion that the proposed bill was in the public interest, the standing orders should be suspended, so as to admit of the bill being introduced and placed before the private bills committee at the earliest date possible without posting, and recommended the same.

The report was received. The standing rules and orders were suspended and the report adopted.

Questions and Answers.

Thos. Taylor asked the Minister of Finance the following questions:

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 transactions an alderman for Victoria?

Hon. R. G. Tatlow replied as follows:

"1. Yes.

"2. Since 1st October, 1903.

"3. Yes.

"4. \$3 and \$40.

"5. I have no official knowledge on the subject."

Want of Confidence Vote.

John Oliver moved the following resolution:

"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 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 September 13th, 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 made?"

And the Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:

"1, 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. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:

"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:

"The following table shows the number of licenses issued and the revenue derived therefrom 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 defeated on a straight party vote, J. H. Hawthorthwaite, Parker Williams and W. Davidson voting with the government. The division was as follows, several being absent:

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

Nays—Messrs. Davidson, Hawthorthwaite, Williams, Taylor, McBride, Wilson, Elison, Clifford, Bower, Fraser, Ross, A. Macdonald, Green, Fulton, Gordon, Taylor, Wright, Young, Gifford, Macgowan, Shatford and Grant—22.

And whereas, the above statements show that 970 licenses 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 defeated on a straight party vote, J. H. Hawthorthwaite, Parker Williams and W. Davidson voting with the government. The division was as follows, several being absent:

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

Nays—Messrs. Davidson, Hawthorthwaite, Williams, Taylor, McBride, Wilson, Elison, Clifford, Bower, Fraser, Ross, A. Macdonald, Green, Fulton, Gordon, Taylor, Wright, Young, Gifford, Macgowan, Shatford and Grant—22.

And whereas, the above statements show that 970 licenses 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 defeated on a straight party vote, J. H. Hawthorthwaite, Parker Williams and W. Davidson voting with the government. The division was as follows, several being absent:

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

Nays—Messrs. Davidson, Hawthorthwaite, Williams, Taylor, McBride, Wilson, Elison, Clifford, Bower, Fraser, Ross, A. Macdonald, Green, Fulton, Gordon, Taylor, Wright, Young, Gifford, Macgowan, Shatford and Grant—22.

And whereas, the above statements show that 970 licenses 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 defeated on a straight party vote, J. H. Hawthorthwaite, Parker Williams and W. Davidson voting with the government. The division was as follows, several being absent:

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

Nays—Messrs. Davidson, Hawthorthwaite, Williams, Taylor, McBride, Wilson, Elison, Clifford, Bower, Fraser, Ross, A. Macdonald, Green, Fulton, Gordon, Taylor, Wright, Young, Gifford, Macgowan, Shatford and Grant—22.

And whereas, the above statements show that 970 licenses 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 defeated on a straight party vote, J. H. Hawthorthwaite, Parker Williams and W. Davidson voting with the government. The division was as follows, several being absent:

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

Nays—Messrs. Davidson, Hawthorthwaite, Williams, Taylor, McBride, Wilson, Elison, Clifford, Bower, Fraser, Ross, A. Macdonald, Green, Fulton, Gordon, Taylor, Wright, Young, Gifford, Macgowan, Shatford and Grant—22.

And whereas, the above statements show that 970 licenses 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 defeated on a straight party vote, J. H. Hawthorthwaite, Parker Williams and W. Davidson voting with the government. The division was as follows, several being absent:

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

Nays—Messrs. Davidson, Hawthorthwaite, Williams, Taylor, McBride, Wilson, Elison, Clifford, Bower, Fraser, Ross, A. Macdonald, Green, Fulton, Gordon, Taylor, Wright, Young, Gifford, Macgowan, Shatford and Grant—22.

And whereas, the above statements show that 970 licenses 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 defeated on a straight party vote, J. H. Hawthorthwaite, Parker Williams and W. Davidson voting with the government. The division was as follows, several being absent:

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

Nays—Messrs. Davidson, Hawthorthwaite, Williams, Taylor, McBride, Wilson, Elison, Clifford, Bower, Fraser, Ross, A. Macdonald, Green, Fulton, Gordon, Taylor, Wright, Young, Gifford, Macgowan, Shatford and Grant—22.

And whereas, the above statements show that 970 licenses 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 defeated on a straight party vote, J. H. Hawthorthwaite, Parker Williams and W. Davidson voting with the government. The division was as follows, several being absent:

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

Nays—Messrs. Davidson, Hawthorthwaite, Williams, Taylor, McBride, Wilson, Elison, Clifford, Bower, Fraser, Ross, A. Macdonald, Green, Fulton, Gordon, Taylor, Wright, Young, Gifford, Macgowan, Shatford and Grant—22.

And whereas, the above statements show that 970 licenses 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 defeated on a straight party vote, J. H. Hawthorthwaite, Parker Williams and W. Davidson voting with the government. The division was as follows, several being absent:

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

Nays—Messrs. Davidson, Hawthorthwaite, Williams, Taylor, McBride, Wilson, Elison, Clifford, Bower, Fraser, Ross, A. Macdonald, Green, Fulton, Gordon, Taylor, Wright, Young, Gifford, Macgowan, Shatford and Grant—22.

And whereas, the above statements show that 970 licenses 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 defeated on a straight party vote, J. H. Hawthorthwaite, Parker Williams and W. Davidson voting with the government. The division was as follows, several being absent:

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

Nays—Messrs. Davidson, Hawthorthwaite, Williams, Taylor, McBride, Wilson, Elison, Clifford, Bower, Fraser, Ross, A. Macdonald, Green, Fulton, Gordon, Taylor, Wright, Young, Gifford, Macgowan, Shatford and Grant—22.

And whereas, the above statements show that 970 licenses 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 defeated on a straight party vote, J. H. Hawthorthwaite, Parker Williams and W. Davidson voting with the government. The division was as follows, several being absent:

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

Nays—Messrs. Davidson, Hawthorthwaite, Williams, Taylor, McBride, Wilson, Elison, Clifford, Bower, Fraser, Ross, A. Macdonald, Green, Fulton, Gordon, Taylor, Wright, Young, Gifford, Macgowan, Shatford and Grant—22.

And whereas, the above statements show that 970 licenses 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."

### Coal Mines Regulations.

The debate was renewed on the third reading of the bill to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act, and the amendment moved by H. Hall to the effect that "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."

Harry Wright thought the bill a move in the right direction.

J. H. Hawthorthwaite regretted that this amendment had been introduced into the legislation after the Premier spoke that the voice had been the voice of the Premier, but the hand was that of the Premier, but the hand was that of James Dunsinuir.

In reply to W. W. B. McInnes he said that the two coal corporations on Vancouver Island had represented that the miners themselves did not want this 8-hour day. This was a mistake. The coal barons had used every effort to defeat this measure. Attempts were made by the companies to get the Premier and the House to sign a resolution against this bill. It had been found impossible to get these men in Nanaimo to sign such a resolution.

Conditions had changed in Nanaimo since S. M. Robins passed out of the control. Mr. Robins had been an ideal mine manager. But within the last year conditions had changed. The mines had passed into the hands of Americans. Now an ordering, thin-skinned labor skinner controlled the mines.

When the miners refused to sign the petition, the board of trade, controlled by the coal barons, contemned, miserable merchants who got large prices for the goods provided to the miners, sent a dilapidated delegation to Victoria to urge against the passing of this bill. Mr. Stockert had written to the Premier, if not demanding, urging the need of defeating this bill.

In spite of the protest of Mr. Stockert the Western Federation of Miners at Victoria had written to the Premier, if not demanding, urging the need of defeating this bill.

With respect to the threat of closing the mines at Ladysmith, Mr. Hawthorthwaite said that that report had been circulated by the Western Fuel Company. James Dunsinuir never signed a telegram saying he would close the mines. Mr. Dunsinuir was not fool enough for that.

If this amendment of Mr. Hall came into effect it would discriminate against the Crown's Nest Pass Coal Company, which was at the present time handicapped by having to sell coal at \$2 a ton at the pit head.

The Vancouver Island Collieries were behind the time with respect to machinery. If instead of a single deck cage a three or four deck cage was used the mine could be taken down in one-quarter of the time now occupied.

The object of this amendment was to destroy the coal industry. It was an attempt to put the coal industry on the foot of every shaft. The danger to miners began as soon as they entered the shaft. James Dunsinuir was an unhappy man today, and no wonder. Money made by the unscrupulous character of men in the mines could not bring a blessing.

This bill would not retard capitalist development. It would aid it. The mine owners would get more modern machinery in consequence.

W. W. B. McInnes said that he wished to correct some of the misrepresentations made by Mr. Hawthorthwaite with respect to the people of Nanaimo and the Board of Trade of that city.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite raised a point of order that Mr. McInnes had already spoken.

Mr. McInnes wanted to know if there was any way of replying to this. He wanted to ask the member for Nanaimo if he was aware that the "dilapidated delegation" from Nanaimo contained the Conservative candidate at the last election.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite called attention to the fact that Mr. Young, the Liberal candidate, for C. B. was also a member of the delegation.

Mr. McInnes said Mr. Young had other business in the city.

W. Davidson spoke in favor of the bill and against the amendment.

J. A. Macdonald contended that the nine owners should have protested last year when the act first came up. This bill this year was really giving effect to last year's legislation and the House should not be asked to undo last year's work. Even if one mine was affected this was not a sufficient reason for undoing the act of last year. It appeared that that company could overcome this by introducing the amendment.

Mr. Hall was defeated by a vote of 20 to 15, and the bill passed its third reading. The following was the division on Mr. Hall's amendment:

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

Nays: Messrs. King, Brown, McInnes, Davidson, Oliver, J. A. Macdonald, Henderson, Munro, Paterson, Hall and Cameron—13.

It is further provided that nominations in municipalities shall be held on the third Monday in January. Elections in cities shall be held on the following Thursday, and in townships on the Saturday following.

Debate Adjourned.

The debate on the bill to amend the Placer Mining Act was further adjourned on motion of J. Murphy.

Third Readings.

The bill to amend the Trustees and Executors Act, and that to amend the Companies Act, passed their third reading.

The School Bill was again committed, and several amendments were introduced.

Parker Williams moved: "All rural schools within the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Collieries 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 argued that the fact that the lands held by the E. & N. Railway Company

this class into line with other workmen. The bill passed its second reading.

Municipal Elections Act.

The amendment to the Municipal Elections Act passed its second reading.

Adjourned.

The second reading of the amendment to the Municipal Clause Act was adjourned on motion of W. J. Bowser.

Supply.

The estimates were reported from committee supply was passed.

Supply to His Majesty was also granted and the formal supply bill was introduced and read a first time.

Immigration Act.

The Immigration Act, which was disallowed last session, passed its third reading.

Reports Adopted.

The report on Dyking Bill was adopted.

The report on the bill to amend the Investment and Loan Societies' Act was adopted.

In Committee.

The House went into committee on the bill to amend the Trustees and Executors Act, with J. R. Brown in the chair.

The bill was reported.

Land Act.

On the second reading of the bill to amend the Land Act, the Chief Commissioner explained that holders of licenses found a great deal of trouble in raising money, as bankers said that the holder of the license had no title. This bill would overcome the difficulty, as it made the licenses transferable and renewable. This also did away with the double system of holding timber lands. It would be held under one system only, the license system. The old licenses will be in effect 16 years. After that time the licenses will be issued for 21 years. New licenses issued will be subject to all the regulations which may be put in force.

Provision is made also in the Dominion act for right of way across crown lands. The Lieutenant-Governor in council is also empowered to grant right of way through crown lands to power companies.

The debate was adjourned on motion of W. C. Wells.

The House then adjourned until the evening.

EVENING SESSION.

At the evening sitting the following bills were introduced and read a first time: By H. Wright, to amend the Municipal Clauses Act; by Hon. R. G. Tatlow, to amend the Farmers' Institutes and Co-operative Act; by Hon. C. Wilson, a bill respecting Provincial Land Surveyors, amendment to Supreme Court Act, Coal Mines Regulation Act Amendment, and a bill relating to the employment on works carried on under franchises granted by Private Acts.

The two latter are acts disallowed by the Dominion government, and relate to Mongolian labor.

Resolutions.

Mr. Taylor moved the following resolution:

"That the House be granted a return of all correspondence received since June 30th, 1900, between the government of British Columbia, or any member thereof, and any person or persons, corporations, or companies, 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 Company.

2. The Victoria, Vancouver & Eastern Railway Company.

3. The Coast & Kootenay Railway Company.

4. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

This carried.

Mr. Henderson moved the following resolution:

"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 Company, showing a copy of the guarantee of payment of rent by Great Northern Railway Company, and a copy of the order in council approving same."

This also carried.

Bills in Committee.

The bill to amend the Medical Act was committed, with W. G. Cameron in the chair, and passed its final stages.

The bill to amend the woodmen's lien for wages was committed.

The committee rose and reported the bill.

The bill to amend the Municipal Elections Act was committed, with J. Murphy in the chair.

The committee rose and reported the bill complete.

The bill passed its third reading. It provides as follows: "Householder" shall extend to and include every person who holds and occupies 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."

It is further provided that nominations in municipalities shall be held on the third Monday in January. Elections in cities shall be held on the following Thursday, and in townships on the Saturday following.

Debate Adjourned.

The debate on the bill to amend the Placer Mining Act was further adjourned on motion of J. Murphy.

Third Readings.

The bill to amend the Trustees and Executors Act, and that to amend the Companies Act, passed their third reading.