

during the 1903 session, who investigated that fraudulent transfer. The able manner in which Mr. Oliver conducted that famous investigation deservedly earned for him the title of "Honest John" because he forced the return of those lands to the Province.

ousting "HONEST JOHN."

After hearing Mr. Oliver so prudently outline his "railway policy" (despite the ridicule of interested parties), I was astonished to find that about \$60,000 of Government and party election funds were being so freely used to prevent his re-election, when it was decidedly in the public interest to have such an able critic in the Legislature to improve the crude railway legislation then being submitted to the people for endorsement.

A highly significant fact about that effort to oust "Honest John," was forcibly brought to my mind by one remark Premier McBride made to me when expressing his thanks for the pointers given in my Memo, "A," date Oct. 16th, 1909. He referred to paragraph 23, wherein I suggested the advisability of requiring future railway companies to unite with the Government in the wise policy of assisting to pay the cost of joint road and railway bridges, as at New Westminster.

He said they would do so, significantly adding that he had just concluded negotiations with the B. C. E. Rly. Co. to run over that bridge and as what they would pay in addition to the other railway companies for use of that bridge would pay the interest and sinking fund on its cost of about \$1,000,000. HE WAS GOING TO FREE THE WESTMINSTER BRIDGE IN APRIL, 1910, WHEN B. C.'S NEXT REVENUE YEAR BEGAN.

MACKENZIE DELUDED ELECTORS TO OUST "HONEST JOHN."

Knowing how Mr. John Oliver had striven many years to free that bridge from tolls which exacted 25 cents per rig used by himself and Fraser Valley farmers crossing to Westminster, I was shocked by hearing then druggist Mackenzie addressing meetings as the McBride candidate for Delta, loudly proclaiming that he "would free that bridge if they would elect him instead of 'Honest John'—and that if he did not keep his promise, he would resign on the 1st of April, 1910"

That was so obviously a trick to delude the farmers into voting "Honest John" out, that I spoke to Premier McBride about it; but he laughed it off by saying that politics in B. C. were so entirely different to the milder ways of politicians in England.