LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Mr. Williams Fails in His Attempt to Introduce a Subject Already Disposed of.

The Dyking Bill Is Read a Second Time—A Good Business Day.

FRIDAY, April 29.

The legislature got through a good deal of work to-day. Several bills were read a third time and passed and several important measures were advanced. Among the latter were the Cariboo-Omineca bill and the bill to assist dyking operations in Westminster district.

The house opened with prayer by Rev. Percival Jenns.

Mr. Speaker announced that in accordance with what he had decided yesterday he had received the following written report from Dr. Walkem, who had been chairman of the committee of the whole on the Redistribution bill.

Mr. Smith question whether the resolution was in order, for it dealt with a subject that at the beginning of the session the house had decided not to discuss for six months as it was before the courts.

Mr. Speaker took the view that while the portion relating to the company might perhaps be discussed certainly the latter part of the resolution referring to the ministers was out of order inasmuch as the house had already decided to postpone any reference to the subject.

Hon. Col. Baker wanted to know if the resolution contained a full and accurate copy of the advertisement.

Mr. Williams said that probably some paragraphs were omitted.

Mr. Semlin thought that the resolution was in order and Mr. Williams held it was quite different to the one which had been shelved.

Mr. Speaker, however, held that the motion was very similar to the former one.

Mr. Huff thought that the best way in view of the point raised by Mr. Smith that the question be laid over till Monday.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the portion referring to the ministers was practically the same as the resolution which in the early part of the session the house decided should be laid over. He accordingly ruled that the resolution was out of order.

The ruling the Mr. Speaker was sustained by the house.

CARIBOO-OMINECA CO.

The house went into committee of the whole, Mr. Stoddart in the chair, to consider the message of the Lieutenant-Governor enclosing a bill "To Confirm an Agreement between the Province of British Columbia and Frank Owen and Wm. John Stokes and to Incorporate the Cariboo-Omineca Chartered Company."

W. W. WALKEM

Acting Chairman Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Sword would like to know what Mr. Speaker thought the report meant. For his own part he did not think that it touched up on the dispute which had been raised in committee.

Hon. Mr. Turner understood yesterday that it was decided that the chairman should put in writing the report he had made to the Speaker. This was now that report which was before them.

Mr. Hunter did not think it was absolutely necessary for the Speaker to know what had passed in committee. All that Mr. Speaker had to do was to take the report of the chairman and it was then for the house to decide upon whether the chair should be sustained or not.

Mr. Semlin said that his claim was that the committee had appealed from the decision of the chairman not to put a motion offered by Mr. Kellie.

Mr. Kennedy could not see the use of an appeal if only the chairman's report could be received by the house.

Mr. Speaker replied that he could not take cognizance of what occurred in committee.

Mr. Sword said that what he complained of was that the chairman's report did not state the question that should have been submitted to the house.

Mr. Speaker quoted May to show that a question of order in the house or in committee could not be considered as a question of privilege and it was upon that ground he had ruled out Mr. Semlin's resolution on the previous day.

Mr. Kellie wanted to know if the chairman's report was to be put in the sessional papers; because if it was, he would protest against it as some of the statements in it were not true.

Mr. Speaker said that the report would be printed and laid before the members of the house.

ROTHWELL'S REPORT.

Mr. Helmcken read the dispatch published in the Colonist yesterday morning from Ottawa in regard to Commissioner Rothwell's report on the claims of settlers within the E. & N. railway belt. Had the Premier seen this dispatch?

Dr. Walkem remarked that this was a very important question to his district and he had already communicated with the government upon it.

PETITION.

Mr. Graham presented a petition from residents of Camp McKinney against the proposed division of East Yale and asking that it be divided by a line drawn east and west to the south of Penticton.

NEW BILL.

Mr. Eberts introduced a bill to amend the "Speedy Incorporation of Towns act."

The bill was read a first time.

Mr. Higgins withdrew a resolution he had on the paper asking for a return of papers relating to dividing Vancouver into ridings.

Hon. Mr. Turner said in this connection that he had not stated as reported in some newspapers that only one person had asked for increased representation for Vancouver. The fact was no statement.

Mr. Williams moved: Whereas the attention of the members of this house has been called to an advertisement in the London Times, issued on the 5th of April, instant, by the "Klondike and Columbian Gold Fields, Limited," the "Dawson City and Dominion Trading Corporation," with the following clauses appear: "On arrival of passengers at Pacific Coast, the voyager is ignorant of the best steamer on which to take his passage. In a strange country, he is at the mercy of the first canvasser. In a strange town, he is in the hands of the storekeeper, who undertakes to provide him with a miner's outfit or an exorbitant sum, omitting many of the most important and more expensive necessaries. He is plagued by custom officials, and is without experience.

BILLS PASSED.

The Mountain Tramway and Electric Company bill, the Skeena River and Eastern Railway bill, and the Kootenay and Northwest Railway were read a third time and passed.

AFTER RECESS.

The report of the Vancouver City Act Amendment bill was discharged and the bill referred back to committee of the whole in order to consider several amendments Mr. Williams wished to make.

These amendments were to transfer from the Municipal Clauses act to the Vancouver City act all the clauses referring to that city.

NORTH COWICHAN

Hon. Mr. Eberts moved the second reading of the North Cowichan Corporation Boundaries bill to exactly define the limits of the district.

This was carried.

SMALL DEBTS ACT.

Hon. Mr. Eberts moved the second reading of the Small Debts Act Amendment bill, which provided that where a sheriff or deputy sheriff has within five miles from the place where any process under the "Small Debts Act" is issued or is to be served or executed, the same shall be delivered to such sheriff or deputy sheriff for service or execution.

The second reading was carried.

B. C. RAILWAY ACT.

Hon. Mr. Eberts moved the second reading of the B. C. Railway act. He explained that it was to correct an oversight in the consolidated statutes making the whole of the act instead of certain sections apply to certain class of companies.

The second reading was carried.

QUESNELLE DAM CO.

Hon. Mr. Eberts moved the second reading of the Quesnelle Lake Dam Co. act. He stated that the act passed in 1897 provided that the works should be pleted by a certain time and the present bill was to make a slight extension of time in case the works were not all completed.

The second reading was carried.

INJUNCTION DISSOLVED.

Supreme Court Has Not Jurisdiction in the Suit Over the Tug "Czar."

Such Is the Opinion of Mr. Justice Drake, Who Gives Judgment to That Effect.

Mr. Justice Drake yesterday decided that the Supreme court had not power to interfere in the case of Dussmuir vs. the Klondike & Columbian Gold Fields company and consequently dissolved the injunction which had been granted the plaintiffs. The judgment is full follows:

WHAT JUDGE IRVING SAID.

To the Editor:—With reference to your editorial note this morning as to Hon. Mr. Justice Irving's remarks to the prisoner in the Connors murder case at Nelson recently, I have watched with much interest the many meanings that have been given to the learned Judge's remarks by various newspapers as far back as Montreal, and all these remarks are founded upon a misreport in the first place, or rather a misconception of the intent of the Judge's words, which to persons at the trial, would appear to be this: The crime had been brought fairly and squarely home to the prisoner; that there was a fearful one, and, having been proved, its punishment was bound to be the most fearful one that the law could impose, so that no severity of manner or word on the part of the judge could add in any way to the measure of punishment to make it properly fit the crime.

THE SCRAMBLE FOR TRAFFIC.

In the course of an address on the "Ethics of Railroad Management" before the St. Louis Commercial Club by Dr. William Taussig, former president of the St. Louis Terminal Railroad Association, the doctor made the following reference to discriminations, rebates, drawbacks to favored shippers, ticket brokerage, underbilling of weights, falsifying of classification:

YUKON SIDE HILLS.

Claims Several Hundred Feet Up Turning Out Unexpectedly Rich.

To the Editor:—The following extracts are from a letter from Dawson, dated March 22, may prove of interest:

"I heard yesterday, and again to-day, of a new strike on an island in the Yukon. It ran from $2.50 to $8.50 to the pan. The Yukon contains thousands of islands and if many of them contain ground of this sort, you will understand what it means for the country.

A. W. ROGERS,
Cobble Hill, April 29, 1898.