tion last year there was a large expenditure made, not on account of its being needed but because it helped the Conservative party."

The president of the council remarked that there were no voters where the money was spent at South Vancouver and Point Grey, so that the leader of the opposition must be out in his idea.

"It is more than an idea, it is a settled conviction," returned Mr. Macdonald. "The government is taking everything possible out of the control of the legislature and into its own hands. If any one thing within the jurisdiction of the legislature has been zealously guarded in the past by the parliament of Great Britain as well as our own country, it has been the expenditure of public money. The Commons has always held the strings of the public purse, and you must come to the people's representatives to have those purse-strings unloosened. But we have had a system established since this government took office, and becoming more and more in evidence of late years, of the government taking power to issue governor's warrants and ignoring the people altogether."

No Explanation given.

A little later a more glaring case cropped up, where a supplementary vote of $140,000 was asked for surveys during the current fiscal year. The amount voted last session was $50,000.

"Surely the government must have had something before them, some facts or data on which to base an estimate that the sum required for surveys during the year 1908-9 would be $50,000," said Mr. Macdonald. They estimated that they wanted $50,000 for surveys during the fiscal year, but now they find that they needed $190,000. They come to us and ask the House to vote them the extra $150,000 without a word of explanation of the need for this large additional expenditure or of their incompetency in the preparation of estimates."

There was no explanation forthcoming and the vote was passed mechanically.

Public Works Votes.

The public works supplementaries passed included $170,300 for works and buildings, $372,800 for roads, streets, bridges and wharves and $140,000 for surveys. Among the items were $20,500 for the Vancouver Island trunk road, $1,500 for the road from Victoria to Campbell river and $500 for the road between Englishman's Bay and Alberni. There were also lump sum votes additional of $4,000 for Alberni district, $6,000 for Esquimalt district, and $7,000 for Newcastle district.

H. C. Brewster pointed out that the asking of a supplementary vote proved the justice of his contention last session that $10,450 was not enough for the demands of Alberni district. This year when he appealed for more he was told Alberni had got all that was coming to it, but presumably next year there would be a heavy supplementary vote to justify him again.

Mr. Hayward inquired whether the destruction of fruit without reference to the board of horticulture would continue this season if necessity arose. He did not believe in the fruit inspectors having too broad powers in this regard.

The minister of agriculture replied that the board of horticulture would meet here on Tuesday or Wednesday next, when this question among others would be discussed.

Farmers Institutes.

The minister or agriculture secured a second reading for his bill to amend the Farmers' Institute and Co-operation Act. The object is to place these institutions on the basis of limited liability companies, with the same powers as joint stock companies, except that their business must only be of a co-operative nature. Members of any association formed under the act shall not hold more than one-twentieth in par value of the nominal share capital, either directly, indirectly or in trust. Voting power is proposed at one vote for every share, but the minister said he was open to discussion on that point.

The commissioner of lands moved the second reading for a bill amending the Bush Fire Act. The object is to provide greater safeguards in the case of setting out of fires, extending the liability of owners to all cases, whether the fire has been set out by owner or occupier or by his agent, servant or contractor. It also requires the securing of a permit to set out a fire for clearing land from fire warden or his assistant, government agent, gold commissioner, timber inspector, forest ranger, mining recorder or provincial police.

Parker Williams moved the adjournment of the debate.

The second reading of the bill extending to the whole province the act making it necessary to manufacture lumber cut in British Columbia in the province was moved, and the debate was adjourned by J. A. Macdonald.

Bills Introduced.

The commissioner of lands introduced a bill, authorizing the lieutenant-governor in council to make a grant to the city of lot 921, upon which Kingston street fire hall stands.

Another bill substitutes a map of Alberni townsite just completed for the existing map, in which errors have been found to exist. The new map shows the surveyed lines as they actually are on the ground, the boundaries of all parcels of land as accepted and in the possession of property owners at the present time, and agrees with the descriptions in crown grants and other title deeds.

W. R. Ross (Fernie) introduced a bill which provides for a fortnightly pay day to all workmen receiving not more than $4 a day who are employed in connection with industrial operations where the payroll exceeds $50,000 a month.

Third Readings.

The following bills were read a third time were finally passed:

An act to amend the Court of Appeal Act, 1907.

An act to amend the Highway Traffic Regulation Act.

An act to amend the Companies' Act, 1897.

An act to amend the Placer Mining Act.

An act to amend the Reformatory Act.

An act to incorporate Westminster Hall.

The bills to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act and the Jurors' Act stand for third reading.

The commissioner of lands presented the annual report of the old department of lands and works for the last fiscal year.

Rev. A. E. Roberts read prayers in the House to-day.

This evening the members of the House were the guests of the members of the government in the grillroom of the parliament buildings.

Dr. Hall (Nelson) will move in committee on the public service bill that only British subjects shall be or become members of the public service of British Columbia.

CASTRO SETS HIMSELF RIGHT WITH PUBLIC

Repudiates Statement That He Conspired to Assassinate President Gomez.

Dresden, Feb. 27.—Cipriano Castro, at one time president of Venezuela, to-day authorized the publication of a declaration of his innocence that he had conspired to bring about the assassination of Juan Vicento Gomez, the present president of the republic.

"The only charge that has been raised against me," Senor Castro says in a written statement, "is that I tried to instigate the murder of Gomez. It is incredible that after having shown my interest in him in so many ways I should try to cause him to be murdered. If Gomez had given me occasion to suspect him I would have given orders regarding him before my departure from Venezuela and I would not have been so stupid as to send such an order by cable.

"I arrived in Berlin on December 14th, and when I later heard of the occurrence in Venezuela through the press and cipher dispatches from the then foreign minister of Venezlela, Jose De Jesus Paul, I answered Senor Paul in cipher through the Venezuelan legation in Berlin, transmitting to him orders regarding the situation with Holland. The originals of these messages must be in the central telegraph office in Berlin and copies in the foreign officer in Caracas, where they were received.

"I declare once for all that I sent no other dispatches in cipher. Who ever knows me knows also that I am incapable of such disgraceful cowardice.

"I give this declaration in the interest of truth to the press and to foreign countries in order to set at rest, in places where I am not known, all doubts and suspicions regarding my behavior.

"This I do also in the knowledge that the shameless individual who instigated this conspiracy against me will have to proceed to the utmost extremes in order to justify himself, for he is aware that as soon as the matter is understood the Venezuelan people will not tolerate such perfidity.

"I know that sooner or later the truth must come forth and that God will do me justice. I seek nothing further."

ROMANCE OF CLAIM TO ENGLISH PEERAGE

Son of Spanish Dancer Seeking Sackville Title and Estates.

Paris, Feb. 27.—Over one hundred witnesses have been summoned to appear in the case of Ernest Henri Jean Baptiste West, claimant to the Sackville peerage and estates, against Lionel Edward Sackville West, his nephew, to whom the estates have passed, which comes up for trial on Monday. Ernest is the son of the late Lord Sackville, and he was born at Arcachon, in the Gironde, on June 24, 1869. His mother was Josephine Duran de Ortega, a Spanish dancer.

The case hinges upon the legitimacy of Ernest. No attempt will be made to deny that Lord Sackville lived with Josephine de Ortega as his wife and that formally legitimatized his children by her, but Lionel will contend that the dancer in 1871 contracted a marriage with a Spaniard named Oliva, and that consequently Lord Sackville's legal recognition of his children is nullified. He will produce in court copies of the register of a church in Madrid purporting to show the marriage of Ernest's mother to Oliva. These copeis were procured in 1900 and the claim is made that the register was tampered with in 1901. The outcome of the case hangs upon the validity of the marriage of 1871 and this the court will have to decide.

EVANGELIST ASSAULTED WHILE IN PULPIT

Extraordinary Scene in Illinois Church—Preacher Grapples With Assailant.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 27.—Evangelist W. A. (Billy) Sunday, a former baseball player, was horsewhipped last night by a man at the Sunday tabernacle where, in the presence of 8,000 persons, he was conducting a revival.

While the evengelist was leaning against the pulpit during the singing of a hymn, his assailant, who said his name was Sherman Potts, sprang forward with a buggy whip and struck Mr. Sunday several terrific blows.

The evangelist leaped from the platform and knocked his powerful foe down. The audience was on the verge of a panic with women weeping and children screaming while Potts and Sunday rolled and tumbled in the midst. The choirister directed the choir and the audience to sing, and in a few moments calm was restored. Several men held Potts until the policeman arrived.

Potts said he was once declared insane and committeed to Jacksonville asylum. He made the attack, he said, in defence of women whom he declared had been criticised by the evangelist.

COMMISSION VIEWS CROSSING

SEVERAL APPLICATIONS DISPOSED OF TO-DAY

Commissioners Mabee and McLean Handle Business With Expedition.

(From Saturday's Daily.)

The railway commission for the Dominion held its first sitting here this morning in the Assize court. After disposing of a large number of applications an adjournment was taken at lunch time until Monday at 10 o'clock. The application on behalf of lower freight and passenger rates on the C. P. R. within British Columbia was laid over until Monday, as the arguments promised to be rather too long to open to-day when its turn in the list was reached. The city's application for the reopening of the crossing on the old Esquimalt road was also laid over until Monday, as J. E. McMullen, the C. P. R. solicitor, wished to visit the spot. At the suggestion of the city solicitor the members of the commission will also visit the spot at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

The commission, which consists of Hon. J. P. Mabee, the chairman, and S. J. McLean, manifested their ability for disposing of business this morning. Starting at 10 o'clock they disposed of a considerable number of applications before rising at lunch time. R. Richardson, secretary; H. A. Drury, of Winnipeg, expert engineer; James Hardwell, traffic expert, and the official stenographers, made up the assisting staff.

On opening a complaint was received from James Norcross asking for an automatic signal at an alleged dangerous crossing near Cowichan. A decision was held over.

An application of the Pacific Coast Coal Co., Ltd., and South Wellington Coal Mines, Limited, for authority to lay a wooden box containing an air and steam pipe under the tracks of the E. & N. Ry. Co., near South Wellington, was granted.

Railroad Crossings.

On an applications of the chief commissioner of lands and works directing the Nicola, Kamloops & Similkameen Coal & Railway Company to improve its crossings and to remove dangerous conditions where the highway ran alongside the railway, the deputy attorney-general, D. McLean, appeared. He asked that at one point the highway should be diverted by the company providing for a road which would pass over an elevation of 400 to 500 feet. The railwdy company had taken the original highway, and the road now ran between the railway and the river. A resident feared allowing his children to drive along there to school.

On behalf of the railway company, Mr. McMullen put A. J. Cambie in the box, who testified that improvements had been made; that a fence might aid the work; that only one white settler was served, and that the road proposed would not be used. He did not think there was great danger. The cost of the road he thought would be far more than $600, as estimated by the government.

Mr. Cambie said the government did not now retain the section man on the road to keep it in shape as formerly, which he thought was one of the causes of trouble.

Another point on the road was interfered with, Mr. McLean pointed out. In this case the company took the outside of the road and pushed the highway in against the face of the cliff. After rains, rocks and gravel was washed upon the road. He wanted the company to look after that also. Mr. McLean wanted a curb work put in.

The chairman asked by what right the company had gone upon this highway and taken the road. Was permission obtained?

Mr. McMullen did not think permission had been given originally.

Ruling of Commission.

The chairman in ruling on the point said that for a great many years this had been a highway under the province. The fee would be in the crown. When a railway intended to locate a line plans were filed with the local municipality, and in British Columbia with the representative of the crown. The power was then given to expropriate. None of these steps seemed to have been taken in this case. However, the line was located without steps being taken to ensure the public safety. He ordered that the railway line be improved and put in safe condition. All diversions and encroachments between Spences Bridge and Nicola, and particularly those mentioned in the application, should be made as directed by the chief engineer of public works. The engineer he felt would not be unreasonable. If the demands were unreasonable the matter could be brought before the board and the engineer would dispose of it.

In the matter of streets in Hastings townsite for suitable crossings, A. H. McNeill, representing the V. V. & Y., said the work would be done as required. The order was made accordingly, one crossing to be overhead.

Company Not Represented.

An application was made by the province for an overhead crossing at Ladysmith, over the Wellington Colliery Company's line and the E. & N. where they joined. It was explained that the province was now building a new roadway between Ladysmith and Nanaimo which would become the main trunk road. If this overhead crossing were allowed there would be no flat crossing in the whole distance of 18 miles, while at present the road crossed the Wellington Colliery Company's line twice and the E. J N. once. The cost of the crossing was put at about $1,000.

Mr. McMullen objected, urging that the E. & N. should not pay a part as the proposed work would not alter matters for them much.

As no one appeared for the Wellington Colliery Company, the chairman asked the reason.

Mr. McLean said notice had been served on Maurice Hills, of the company, the notice being produced.

The chairman wanted to know if the Wellington Colliery Company had any authority for building the line under its charter.

Mr. McLean explained that the line was built on the lands of the Wellington Colliery Company.

"How did they get permission to cross the E. & N. line?" asked the chairman.

Mr. McLean explained that there was a very close connection between the E. & N. and the Wellington Colliery Company at the time the line was built, Mr. Dunsmuir owning both. When the highway was reached the company just crossed it.

The chairman said that the charter of the Wellington Colliery Company was not before him and he did not know the powers it had. The company was not represented and if any objections were taken to the order he was about to make it could be considered later. He said leave should be given to the government to construct the overhead bridge, the plans to be submitted to the parties concerned and all regulations complied with. The location of the bridge will be partly over each line at the point of intersection. The Wellington Colliery Company would demand the more benefit. The expense should be paid one-half by the Wellington company, one-quarter by the E. & N., and one-quarter by the government. In case of dispute it may be referred to an engineer.

An application on behalf of Mr. Carter, of Courtenay, being called no one appeared for the applicant. It was accordingly dismissed.

When the application on behalf of the province for a reduction in rates was reached, A. P. Luxton, K. C., who appeared for the province, suggested that it might stand over unless the commission intended to sit in the afternoon.

"We always sit on Saturday afternoon," said Chairman Mabel. "Is there any reason why we should not?"

Mr. Luxton said they did not follow that practice here, suggesting it was against "union rules."

"We came here to administer the laws and not to break them," said the chairman, which was accepted as a declaration against an afternoon sitting.

Cattle Guards.

A protest against the railway guards and fences in the Nicola country being insufficient, resulting in the loss of many cattle, was presented.

Mr. McLean produced some photos showing cattle crossing the guards.

The chairman intimated that anything could be proved by photos. He said on viewing them that they were evidently arranged for the occasion.

Unless there was something new to offer by the witnesses they need not proceed. The commission had similar applications at every sitting from Winnipeg west. The subject was being given a great deal of thought.

Similar language was used with respect to an application by F. M. Logan relative to shipments of milk. It was stated that the contentions of the applicants were just the usual ones.

Permission was given to the crossing from the E. & N. yards to the B. Wilson Cold Storage quarters, the city acquiesing in the arrangement.

An application for a crossing at Eagle Pass road, near Revelstoke, was laid over.

The commission then adjourned till Monday morning.

FRANCES WILLARD MEMORIAL MEETING

Papers on Her Life and Work Read by Members of W. C. T. U.

The members of the W. C. T. U. held a most interesting and enjoyable Frances Willard memorial meeting Thursday aftrenoon at Point Ellice, the home of Mrs. Grant. The president, Mrs. Thompson, was in the chair, and there were forty members present.

After the regular opening services, a Frances Willard roll was called, each member answering with a quotation from some of her works.

A few quotation were as follows:

"We have cast anchor just for a little while beside this island of a world, but we are bound for the continent—immortality."

* * *

"We shall never climb to heaven by making it our life long business to save ourselves."

* * *

"Whoever has within the last hour had the greatest number of serene and helpful thought is the person who best illustrates the purpose of God and His creation."

* * *

"Only when the cobwebs are all swept away from the soul's skylight, can a man really think God's thoughts after him."

* * *

Mrs. Grant then followed with a comprehensive paper on the origin and crusade of the W. C. T. U., incorporating in it the story of the life and work of its founder.

Mrs. Andrews next read the famous five-minute speech of Frances Willard before an English audience. Mrs. Spofford read some pages from lessons from Miss Willard's life; Mrs. Jenkins contributed a letter "In memory of Miss Willard's life," written by Lady Henry Somerset, who knew her intimately and loved her for her noble womanhood.

Mrs. Teague, Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Fraser and Mrs. Thompson spoke feelingly of their personal contact with the great Canadian temperance worker, the late Mrs. Yeomans.

The meeting then adjourned, to meet next at the home of Mrs. Scowcroft on Discovery street.

Refreshments were served by Mrs. Grant at the close of the meeting, and some time spent in social intercourse. A standing vote of thanks was tendered the hostess for her hospitality.

Berlin has 45,000 trees in its streets—more than any other city in the world.

From the Malay Peninsula comes the bulk of the tin used in Britain.

TRAILS TO OPEN UP THE ISLAND

GOVERNMENT WILL ACCEDE TO REQUEST

Vancouver Island Development League Deputation Presents Strong Case.

"I think I can promise you that your representations have not been made in vain and that there will be no difficulty in giving the Vancouver Island portion of the province a proper proportion of the money at our disposal for roads and trails. I am heartily in accord with the work of the Vancouver Island Development League."

This was Premier McBride's answer to a deputation of gentlemen from that body who waited on the government on Saturday in the executive chamber, to ask that the government build some two hundred miles of trails on the island with the object of making it possible for prospectors to go in and look for minerals, and to enable a more accurate knowledge to be obtained of the immense resources it is known to possess. In the deputation were Col. E. G. Prior, president of the league; Simon Leiser, president of the board of trade; H. B. Thomson, M. P. P.; H. C. Brewster, M. P. P.; Fred Davey, M. P. P.; H. F. W. Behnsen, M. P. P.; W. J. Sutton, F. R. G. S.; J. J. Shallcross, D. R. Ker, Capt. Gosse, Colwood; Hy C. Helgesen, Metchosin; John Nelson, L. A. Genge and C. H. Lugrin.

The deputation was received by Premier McBride, Hon. Thomas Taylor, minister of public works; Hon. F. J. Fulton, commissioner of lands, and Hon. Dr. Young, provincial secretary.

Col. Prior was the first speaker and dwelt on the unanimity with which the people of Vancouver Island had joined in the formation of the league. In the request which the deputation had to make the whole island was behind them. The first thing, it was felt, which was necessary was the construction of cheap trails to open up present portions of the island inaccessible on account of the timber. Nothing expensive was asked; not wagon roads but trails over which a man could go in with a pack. These could be built at an average of $150 per mile and the trails being asked for aggregated about 200 miles and would cost $30,000, a modest request when it was considered what an area it covered and the benefit it would be. The clearing of land for agricultural purposes was also a matter which the league would like to see taken up.

Trails That Are Needed.

W. J. Sutton pointed out on a large map which the commissioner of lands had had prepared trails which were asked for. The first was from the mouth of Campbell river up to Campbell lake and over Crown mountain. Running from this there should be a trail from Camosun lake to the head of Clayoquot Sound, and another from the head of Nootka Sound. Connecting with Buttle's lake by way of the upper Campbell lake, a trail would open up a rich mineral country. Another valuable trail would be from Sproat lake, through by Sutton Pass, connecting the head of Taylor river with the upper reaches of Elk river, opening an excellent mineral region. He also suggested trails from Nanaimo lakes connecting with Cowichan Lake trail, from Cowichan lake in, and from San Juan in, going up the Robertson river to where a rough trail led to a copper prospect.

Conditions on the island, especially on the west coast, were very different to those on the mainland, Mr. Sutton pointed out. The undergrowth was so dense that a mile a day was making good progress. The geology of Vancouver island showed that conditions in the far past had been exceptionally favorable to mineral production and deposits were found all through the island. Texada island was a miniature Vancouver island in this respect. The island had a three-fold wealth—coal and other minerals underground, timber on the surface and, when the timber was removed, a splendid agriculture country. The timber was almost at the water's edge at every part of the island. But although the island had been settled for half a century very little was known of its wealth. A new era was now dawning for it and he felt the government would not turn a deaf ear to the request being made to them.

Nanaimo Suggestions.

Col. Prior read a memorial from the Nanaimo committee, signed by H. Shepherd, Ezra Cook, Robert Gillard, J. R. McKenzie, Smith Moore and A. Cowie, submitting the following recommendations: That the old government trail from the north end of Cowichan lake to Alberni road, about thirty miles, be opened for vehicular traffic; that a road be constructed from Nanaimo waterworks dam for eight or nine miles along the north side of the south fork of Nanaimo river to tap a mineral area where much development has been done, and capable of extension past Mount Battle to connect with the Cowichan-Alberni road; that a trail be constructed from the end of Errington road, thirteen miles southwesterly, to tap a section on Mount Arrowsmith, on which several valuable claims are located; that the road on the south shore of Nanaimo lake and the trail along Green river be repaired; that an expert on mineralogy be sent to examine these locations and report; that an endeavor be made to get better terms from the E. & N. for encouragement of prospecting in the railway belt.

Views of the People.

H. B. Thomson said every one of the Island members thoroughly endorsed the request made by the deputation. The people of the Island were alive to their opportunities. This request of $30,000 for trails was very modest, and there was no doubt the government would see fit to decide that it was only right to fall in with the view of the people. With this work done there was no question that very considerable development would follow. The clearing of land was a more difficult subject; but in the neighboring states much was being done in this regard. He thought the subject might very properly be referred to the commission on forestry for the consideration of some scheme which would enable settlers to borrow money to carry out the work. One means suggested was the borrowing through co-operative associations analogous to the creamery associations.

Simon Leiser expressed the appreciation of the businessmen and the people generally for the work the government had done on trails and roads on the Island, and the hope that more would be done this year and next. The expenditure would really be an investment, and would make available a large area for the benefit of the province and individuals alike.

H. C. Brewster fully agreed with all that had been said as to the need of trails to open up the riches of the Island. The clearing of land was very necessary, and he asked that certain areas which had been surveyed and respecting which the government had certain field notes, be taken into consideration again. There was one area he had in mind, between Ucluelet and Clayokuot, of 30,0000 acres, which the surveyor informed him contained some of the finest agricultural land in the province, and he would be glad to see an expert sent up to make an report on the locality. After Mr. McCurdy had shown the capabilities of a marble quarry, after being told by Mr. Sutton of the glowing prospects, it must be plain that we were even now but commencing to realize what a tremendous heritage we have on the Island.

H. F. W. Behnsen said he considered the Island was the timber storehouse of the world for the future.

H. C. Helgesen, from his own experience, assured the executive that in many parts of the Island a man would be in danger of getting lost if he went one hundred yards from the shore line without a compass. There could be no question of the need for trails. The people of Metchosin and Colwood had a small request to make. With fourteen miles of shore there was no access to the water at a single point by road. The people desired the government to build a road from a point on the Rocky Point road, between sections 2 and 4, and another in Colwood.

A. W. McCurdy was satisfied the deputation voiced the sentiments of the whole Island. The government could make no mistake in endeavoring to enable prospectors to get in to view the land.

Fred Davey was surprised that the league had done so much in so short a time.

J. J. Shallcross spoke of the increased interest which would be developed in the Island's resources as it became possible to get at them.

C. H. Lugrin supported the request.

Col. Prior, to show that the people are in earnest, mentioned that in a short time D. R. Ker, Simon Leiser and himself had secured $4,000 from business men to carry on the work of the league.

Island Will Get Its Share.

"I am satisfied I can speak for all my colleagues when I say it has been a very profitable as well as interesting hour," said the premier in reply. "The amount of exploration and development work done on Vancouver Island is proportionately smaller than in any other part of the province in the same belt. There can be no question but what the physical conditions which have been so strongly impressed on us by Mr. Sutton and referred to by other gentlemen have played some considerable part in this matter, and retarded to a great extent the prospecting work which might have been undertaken.

"Your request is for the expenditure of $30,000. I may say the estimates were adopted yesterday afternoon in committee of the whole, and so far as this session is concerned, the government does not propose to ask the legislature for any additional grant. But we have this gratifying fact to which we may all look with some degree of pride, that the state of the treasury has permitted us to ask a large sum for contingent and miscellaneous expenditure, and we did so in anticipation that during 1909 there would be a great deal of development work under way which would require expenditure on roads, bridges, trails and so forth.

"I have no hesitation whatever in saying that there will be no difficulty at all, where conditions warrant, in giving to the Vancouver Island portion of the province a proper portion of that grant. There was in the estimates some $80,000 for roads and bridges on the island in excess of the vote made in 1908, in addition to which there are two items, amounting in all to $225,000, an excess over last year of $100,000, from which the island will draw its fair proportion. For public works on Vancouver Island there will be available over $100,000 more than last year. If that money is wisely expended it should supply a substantial addition to the trails and highways on the island.

Will Co-operate With Dominion.

"So far as the work of the Dominion government with respect to its geological survey is concerned, if a request is made to the department of public works for their plans we will be only too glad to co-operate with them as to helping them out with trails so far as it is in the interests of the province to do so. We recognize that we of the provincial government should work together with the Dominion government in this matter in order that the provincial department of mines may be made as effective as possible. There will be no hesitation in joining hand in hand with the Dominion to make its survey work beneficial.

"In regard to clearing the land, after listening to practical men, I must say that so far no plan has been evolved which would satisfy all the conditions and justify the government in making any large vote for such a purpose. If any government in British Columbia attempted to ask an appropriation for clearing bush lands it would have to face a most difficult situation. The suggestion to refer the question to the forestry commission so that attention should be paid to this problem with a view to submitting some satisfactory scheme which would make it possible to cheapen this work is very timely. In Alberni a few years ago, while listening to a suggestion in this matter, I felt that if the government undertook the clearing of land it should also make some compensation to the old pioneers who had gone in there and cleared the land at their own expense. It is a most complex and difficult subject.

"In reply to Mr. Helgesen, I think he has made an impression on the minister of public works, and that there should not be much trouble in settling this matter to the satisfaction of the people.

Heartily in Accord.

"Addressing you, gentlemen, as a Victorian and a representative from your city, I have one last word to say. I am heartily in accord with the work of the Vancouver Island Development League. While I may not be permitted to take the active part I should like I want you to understand that as one of your members you have my hearty support and co-operation, and that as far as I can, consistently with my duty to the province at large, I shall not spare myself in supporting your objects. When Col. Prior has been able to tell us of the public generosity in assisting this most deserving work it gives the league and its schemes a standing that no government can afford to overlook.

"It is not a Victoria matter; it is a Vancouver Island matter and it is just the kind of affair that appeals to me. Get Vancouver Island opened up and you need not worry about Victoria. I think I can promise you your representations have not been made in vain."

The reputation withdrew after thanking the cabinet for their answer.

VANCOUVER LIBERALS CONDEMN FORGER

Call for Prosecution of Culprit and Resignation of Mr. Barnard.

The Vancouver Province says: Vancouver Liberals and the Hon. Mr. Templeman are resolved not to allow to drop the matter of the forged Colonist telegram from Leader Borden, published on the eve of the last federal election at Victoria.

Wednesday Hon. William Templeman, minister of inland revenue, who arrived from Victoria en route to Ottawa, declared he was unable to decide whether the man who forged the telegram or Bishop Perrin who absolved the Colonist after hearing the forger's confession, was the greater offender.

Tuesday night the Vancouver Young Liberals' Association unanimously resolved that the provincial attorney-general's department was to blame for not prosecuting the parties concerned in the forgery, and it was demanded that an investigation of the affair and the prosecution of the guilty should take place immediately.

Mr. G. H. Barnard, M. P., elected in Victoria, was condemned by this resolution for taking his seat in parliament after such an occurrence as that of the forged telegram published in his constituency on the eve of election. His resignation was demanded at the earliest possible moment.

"It is difficult to tell which is the greater offender, the scoundrel who forged Hon. R. L. Borden's telegram to the Victoria Colonist during the late Dominion election campaign, or Bishop Perrin of Victoria, who is said to have received the alleged confession," said Mr. Templeman. "It is high time to call a halt when a high dignitary of the Church of England goes out of his way for pure political purposes to exculpate the Colonist. I have pity and contempt for the unfortunate fellow who found balm for his conscience in seeking spiritual consolation from the ecclesiasaic. The degradation of any sacred office in the zeal of misguided partisanship, reflecting as it does on the cloth, is to be condemned by all right-thinking men."

Liberals Pass Resolutions.

The resolution passed by the Young Liberals read as follows:

"Whereas it has been proved beyond question that the telegram purporting to have been sent by Mr. R. L. Borden to the Victoria Daily Colonist relative to the said R. L. Borden's attitude upon the Asiatic question immediately preceding the late Dominion election was a forgery, and

"Whereas such dastardly election practices are utterly subversive of the true principles of responsible government, and

"Whereas notwithstanding that the fact that the said telegram was a forgery had become a matter of common knowledge to the attorney-general's department of the province, said department have as yet made no attempt to investigate the said forgery or to prosecute the guilty parties concerned therein;

"Be it resolved therefore that this association strongly condemns the laxity of the attorney-general's department in that behalf and urges an immediate impartial and exhaustive investigation of the whole nefarious transaction and the criminal prosecution of the person or persons concerned therein.

"Be it further resolved that this association strongly condemns the attitude and conduct of Representative Barnard in continuing to actively represent the city of Victoria in parliament in the face of such gross and fraudulent election trickery, and is of the opinion that in the interest of the good name of British Columbia the exigencies of the circumstances imperatively demand his resignation at the earliest possible moment."

A FAKE FIGHT.

Attempt to "Get At" Referee Leads to Bets Being Declared Off.

Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 27.—After Wolgast, of Milwaukee, had knocked out Walter Little, of Chicago, last night, Tommy Walsh, the referee, explained his action in declaring all bets off. He said that there had been confided to him a scheme to make a little money by one of the fighters losing on a foul. For this reason he had taken prompt action. Considerable money had been placed.

—The Saanich Liberal Association will hold its annual meeting in the Royal Oak school house on Saturday evening next, March 6th, at 8 o'clock. Conveyances will leave the Pacific transfer at 7 p.m.