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Friday, February 21, 1903

REDUCE TAXES NEXT SESSION

Personal Property Tax Will Probably Be Diminished By the Government

NO INVESTIGATION NEEDED

Government Votes Down Reso-

lution of Mr. Hawthorn-

thwaite

(From Tuesday's Daily)

made at the sitting of the legislature yesterday by Hon. R. G. Tatlow, min-ister of finance. This was to the ef-fect that the government has been

onsidering a reduction of the person-l property tax and at next session

bring in a measure

question upon the or-

Mr. Tatlow,

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An important announcement

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VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

ground in open defiance of the law, as far as the examinations are concerned. people are engaged in the mines, and now comes the question how do these men come to be employed in the mines as miners? And I answer only through the agency of the examining board, on which the miners themselves have rep-resentation, under the coal mines regulation act. In the winter of 1901-2, I am inform-ed by the deputy minister of mines, headed by Ralph Question of Tyranny Agentation of the transfer and the stand of the the stand of miners, headed by Ralph far as the examinations are concerned. These men were not qualified, and as a rule were an undesirable class for employment underground. It was well known that it was the policy of this company to favor the employment of no other class underground, holding that the Orientals were more desirable for this purpose than the ordinary white labor, for this was most unfair to other corporations in the province which only employed white men; for this was the only company in the pro-vince which used this class of labor. There were other corporations which carried on operations on an extensive scale, but which did not employ Ori-ental labor at all. And as all this was

In the winter of 1901-2, I am inform-ed by the deputy minister of mines, a deputation of miners, headed by Ralph Smith, met a deputation of miners in Victoria, when they expressed their en-tire satisfaction with the scheme adopted. And since then no complaints have been made to the department that it was not working satisfactorily un-der the provisions adopted in that hith, met a deputation of finners in the scheme appendent that it was not working satisfactorily un-fer the provisions adopted in that it they dare not stand up for the rights ave been made to the department that it was not working satisfactorily un-fer the provisions adopted in that it they dare not stand up for the rights suddance of the board. Formerly the board consisted of five members, of whom two were appointed in . Hawthornthwaite—I only re-members, of whom two were appointed in the they dare not stand up for the rights automatic they dare not stand up for the rights at they dare not stand up for the rights they dare not stand up for the rights at they dare not stand up for the rights they dare not stand up for the rights at they dare not stand up for the rights and that they dare of all men who live in the province of British Columbia— perfect freedom in expressing and in expressing and in expressing and in members, of whom two were appointed in the province of trades unions. Mr. Hawthornthwaite—I only re-members of trades unions. der the provisions adopted in that act and in amending acts for the guidance of the board. Formerly the board consisted of five is members, of whom two were appointed by the company, two were elected by the miners and one was appointed by f the government, who also acted as sec-retary, and they were each paid §5 per day for their services. But since 1904 the board has consisted of three mem-bers of whom one is appointed by the company, one is elected by the miners, and one is appointed by the govern-

carried on operations on an extensive scale, but which did not employ Ori-ental labor at all. And as all this was eminently unfair and unjust, some steps must be taken to find a remedy. The miners themselves were practic-ally helpless in the matter. It was true that these men were supposed to elect a member of the mining board; but if one of these men took the posi-tion and did his duty, he would assur-edly lose his job in 24 hours. And if all the members of trades unions in the mines were not discharged, trades union officials would unquestionably lose their positions.

Opposed to Unions.
Having quoted at some length from the evidence given by Hon. James been no complaints; while everybody has felt that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactorily that there have absoluted by the govern-scheme has throughout worked so satisfactoril

thwaite said it was impossible in such conditions for the men working in these mines to form unions and to ob-tain protection in this way, and they had absolutely to depend upon the government and this house for the protection of their lives. For, he in-sisted, that these men were not and

Hon. Mr. McBride-I am unable to speak on that point, but I must say it does strike me as a rather extra-

ordinary thing that while the miners in all the other sections of this pro-vince are free to belong to the trades union organizations, these miners are not able to do exactly the same thing. (Hear, hear.) And this, sir, leads me palities:

to another observation. I well remem-her my hon, friend in years gone by, condemning trades unions in the most mphatic fashion. Mr. Hawthornthwaite—I challenge

(Cheers.) Have Never Elected Man In Cumberland the miners have never availed themselves of the right and privilege of electing a member of this board, and under rule 10, with the approval of the miners, the board was completed. The minister of

Mr. McPhillips asked the attorney-general the following questions: Are the provisions of the Shops Reg-ulation Act, 1900, being enforced? Par-ticularly in regard to the following matters:

matters: Are young presons (any boy or girl under the age of sixteen years) em-ployed in or about a shop, store or ware-house for a longer period than sixty-six and a half hours, including meal times, in any one week? Are said persons employed during any Saturday for more than thirteen hours, including meal times? Are said persons employed during

Are said persons employed during any other day for more than eleven hours, ncluding meal times?

Are suitable seats provided for the use of every female employed, and are all female employees permitted to use the same? same:

Personal Property Tax Mr. Oliver: I beg to move: "That municipalities generally is inadequate for the requirements of the munici-palities; "Therefore he it resolved that the Mr. Oliver: I beg to move: "That municipalities; "Therefore he it resolved that the Mr. Macdonald remarked that this proposal still further confirmed him in the view that the entire section output that the view that the section output that the view that the view that the section output that the view that the

Are all bakeshops constructed and kept in a sanitary manner? Are employees in bakeshops required to work on Sunday? Are employees in bakeshops employed more than twelve hours on any one day, or more than sixty hours in any one week?

Are the provisions of section 8 of the Shops Regulation Act, 1900, and Amend-ment Act, 1901, providing agains tdis-ease, enforced?

ish Columbia, or of some other university recognized for that purpose by the University of British Columbia."

regatived upon the following division: Negatived upon the following division: Yeas—Messrs. King, Naden, Hall, Eagleson, Jones, Yorston, Oliver, 'Mac-donald, Henderson, Jardine, Williams, Henderson, Jardine, Williams,

proposal still further confirmed him in the view that the entire section ought eliminated.

"Therefore be it resolved, that in the opinion of this house it is desir-able to increase the revenue-produc-ing power of the municipalities by al-lowing to the municipalities the tax Mr Henderson enquired why ministers in such cases must be M.A.'s any nore than lawyers, who sought the upon personal property now collected degree of LL.D.?

Hon. Dr. Young,—I am quite satis-fied that I am in this matter taking, not a backward, but a forward step. This policy is followed in the east, and amongst other institutions at by the government." Hon. Mr. McBride: Mr. Seaker, to a point of order under No. 45 of the rules of this-house, which precludes the consideration of any proposition, leading to the expenditure of public money, unless it is recommended by

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I had in my opinion at any rate every justification for every statement which I gave to my hon, friend, whon formation 350 white men and 1,760 mines. My hon, friend does not give the source of his information, but I simply because there is nothing di-mation on the subject, i however, sir, is more direct, and is of a depart-the male character, and is of a depart-the estatement that I am not here to which I give to the house will go the source of his information, but I is more direct, and is of a depart-the tals being employed in these mines, there are but 405. (Hear, hear.) The complete figures are as follows: Employed by the Wellington Col-the etc., 39; and by white miners as help-the etc., 39; The Eastern British Columbia Rail-Official Figures These bills were read the second way company, as soon as they secure their charter, will rush construction. time. Hudson Bay-Pacific Ry. Comox works. In character, whit rush construction. In giving the terms of the settle-ment made between the Eastern B. E. Railway company and the Southeast Kootenay Railway company, a mistake was made. Mr. Behnsen (Victoria) moved the third reading of the bill incorporating the Hudson Bay-Pacific Railway comich," and further, III. No certifi-of competency shall be granted to coal miner who does not satisfy majority of the board of examin-University Bill The house, in committee, resumed the Hu consideration of the University bill, Section 4 was amended by giving the university authorities power to the fol hat he is sufficiently conversant that he is sufficiently conversant h the English language, and with provisions of the acts relating to d mining and rules and regulations de thereunder, to render his em-yment as such safe, and also that Mr. Williams (Newcastle) offered The Southeast Kootenay company to the following amendment: lease real property for a period not which at first entirely opposed the granting of the Corbin charter over any part of the territory, subsequento exceed 21 years. "Provided always, that neither directly nor indirectly shall any person of Oriental birth or extraction be em-ployed in the construction of the said Mr. Henderson objected to sub-section b. of section 10, providing for the selection of 25 members of the first convocation by the lieutenant-goverany part of the territory, subsequent-ly made a proposition to withdraw their opposition to the granting of a charter over the first fourteen miles if the Corbin people dropped their ap-plication for the balance. he has been employed in a coal mine or at least twelve months previous to the date of his application for such certificate, and has sufficient knowl-edge of methods of coal mining to fenrailway." nor. Hon. Dr. Young moved that the lat-ter portion of the clause, "and ap-pointed for the first convocation only," be excised, and explained the will and excised the box. This proposition was accepted as that was the only part of the territory the Corbin people wished to build in der him competent to perform the duties appertaining to his employbe excised, and explained that its intention was merely to honor at con-vocation prominent residents of the whereas it is well known that these and other laws for the protection of underground workers in coal mines are not observed in the coal mines on Vancouver island, more especially the etc., 39; and by white miners as help-ers, and not paid by the company. ent": and, Mr. Williams moved that the bill be -committed, and also suggested the at the present time. suspension of this rule. province who would otherwise be in-Hon. Mr. Eberts: The hon. memeligible to take part in the proceed-ings. (Hear, hear.) These gentlemen would be selected wholly irrespective of their politics, or of their religion, or of any other consideration that ber is clearly out of order. **KESTREL IS BUSY** sir, it is quite true that this company employs foreign labor, but on the strength of the statement of the sec-retary of the corporation, I again re-peat that the wages which are paid to Orientals at Cumberland are precisely on the same scale as those which are Mr. Behnsen: Mr. Speaker, I insist be the union operated by the Union Colliery
c) ompany; and
whereas it is also well known that horde of illiterate Orientals are employed underground in the mines at umberland;
c) the underground in the mines at imployed by white miners and contractors as helpers and paid entirely by them, 82, making a total of Japanese of 146; or a grand total of 405 upon the bill receiving its third read-ing now. Further, the amendment is unconstitutional, and contrary to Do-minion pollor. could be properly called in question. (Hear, hear.) minion policy. (Hear, hear.)
Section 42 was so amended as to provide that all property actually occupied or used by the university in the conduct of any part of its educational system shall be exempt from every description of taxation.
Theological Degrees
On section 91, in respect to the affiliation of theological colleges, Mr.
Maxdonald urgad that the structure of the destar.
Maxdonald urgad that the structure of the stru Orientals at Cumberland are precisely a on the same scale as those which are paid to the white miners. My hon, friend quotes from the report of Mr. King, but this has only regard to men who later on were to be employed by the company, and does not concern those who are already in the employ of the commany. I followed my hon Mr. Williams then moved the ad-He again referred to the questions Which he had put in 1902. He had asked at that time if these Chinese could speak English. The reply was that the department did not know. They do not know to this day. provide that all property actually oc-cupied or used by the university in the division: conduct of any part of its educational system, shall be exempt from every description of taxation. Asiatics employed underground, of whom 204 are employed and paid by miners and contractors, and 201 are Statements Misleading. He remarked that the statements hich had been given out by the de-artment of mines with respect to the umber of Orientals employed in these those who are aready in the employ of the company. I followed my hon. friend's reading of the evidence very closely, and it is quite evident from the report which I have in my hands, The fact that the department had no employed and paid by the company. On section 31, in respect to the al-filiation of theological colleges, Mr. Macdonald urged that it be struck out, as the British Columbian college would no doubt eventually affiliate with this university unless prevented complaints proved nothing. The men had no more confidence in the depart-Nays-Messrs. Tatlow, McBride, Cotton, Ellison, Ross, Thomson, Hunt-er, Fullon, Taylor, Garden, Gifford, Grant, Behnsen, Manson, McGuire, Mackay, Parson, Davey-18. Pairs-Messrs. Shatford, Schofield, Munro, Kergin. The bill was read the third time and passed. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Hawthornthwaite Disputes ment than they had in the inspectors. s, and especially underground, been misleading and incorrect. he did not charge the minister of with deliberated Mr Hawthornthwaite: Is this the umber employed by the company al-Couldn't See Why. was quite correct. (Hear, hear.) And the statement is made fiere that this clause applies only to those who were to be brought to the mines, and not to the men who were already employed a dependence of the larks are diversed to the company of the same showing for the company.
 b dependence of the larks are monthing at all in the larks are monthing of the harks are monthing of the harks are monthing of the harks are monthing at the lives of the company, and it is worth. (Here the were working of mines, the mention of the the company are monthing at the lives of the company, and it is worth. (Here the harks are monthing of the harks are with leliberately misleading the ogether Hon. Mr. McBride: Yes, underground. in this respect. On the con-he was quite satisfied that the h the result in either case was ne. Many accidents had oc-and undoubtedly these were day: Invitation to Luncheon Invitation to Luncheon Hon. Mr. Eberts announced to the house that he was in receipt of an in-vitation from the officers and mem-bers of the Canadian Club, requesting the pleasure of their presence at the Empress hotel at luncheon on Thurs-day, February 27, at 1 p. m., in com-memoration of the bâttle and victory of Paardeberg. (Applause.) G. T. P. Negotiations "During January last year, Ameri-can boats caught 1,000,000 pounds of halibut off the banks in Heeate straits. Thus far this year less than 250,000 pounds have been caught there, Butler Cove, on Stephens isl-and, where they have been in the habit of cleaning the fish, has not been visited by an American boat since November. The Kestrel keeps the American captains guessing, and G. T. P. Negotiations Mr. Oliver: I would like to learn how the negotiations between the government and the G. T. P. are get-ting on. Hon Mr. McBride: T. Hon. Mr. McBride: I am very pleased to inform my hon. friend that these negotiations are progressing very favorably. (Laughter.) these negotiations are progressing very favorably. (Laughter.) Present Petition Mr. Hayward (Cowichan), presented a petition from Joseph Norman, op-posing private bill to amend the Vic-Gets the Contract.